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TWICE-A-MONTH

FOUNDED 1876

MONTHLY IN JULY AND AUGUST

JULY, 1925

VOL. 50, No. 13

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Published—Semi-monthly, September to June inclusive; Monthly in July and August—at 62 West 45th Street, New York. Entered as 2nd class matter June 18, 1879, at the Post Office at New York, N. Y., under act of March 3, 1879. \$5 a year; 25c. a copy. Copyright, 1925.

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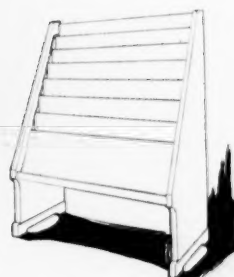
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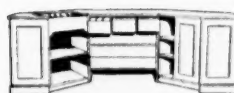
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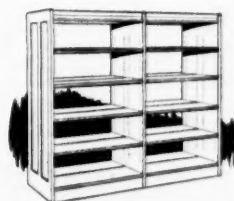
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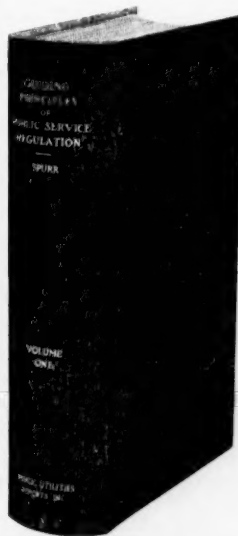
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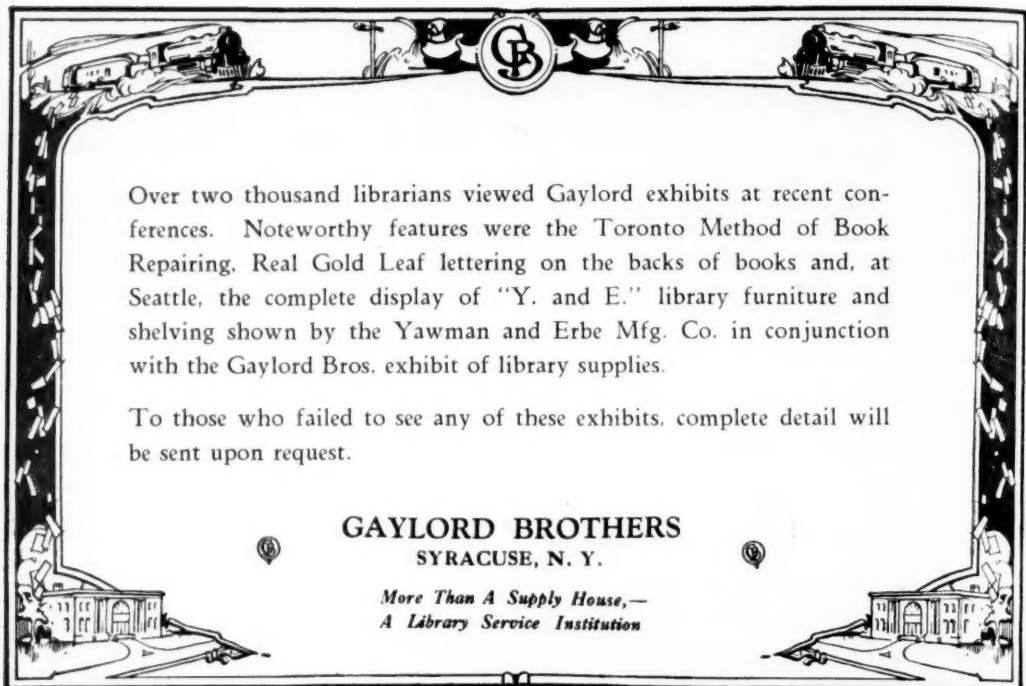
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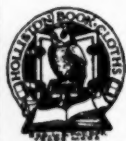
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Library Book Outlook

Notwithstanding the fact that it is the off-season in publishing, a double fortnight's new-book cullings yields a fair-sized collection of titles, of which a few are of more or less outstanding importance.

Anatole France, by Jean Jacques Brousson (Lippincott, \$5), is a translation of *Anatole France en Pantoufles*. The author was France's secretary, and his book shows that he has what is not far short of a genius for biography. The English translation, however, is somewhat Bowdlerized.

In *The Public Life*, by J. A. Spender (350, Stokes, 2v., \$10), an English Liberal journalist of long experience delivers himself of his political philosophy and of his views of the public life generally—its duties, exactions, and responsibilities, the qualifications that are needed to meet them, past precedents, present problems, and future contingencies.

Fundamentalism versus Modernism, compiled by Eldred C. Vanderlaan (213, H. W. Wilson Co., \$2.40), is a collection of articles on both sides of the religious controversy. It forms a volume of the Wilson Handbook Series.

New fiction titles worth considering include William Gerhardt's *The Polyglots* (Duffield, \$2.50), recounting the amatory reactions of a young man in a cosmopolitan group of post-war sojourners in Manchuria, and continuing the fine craftsmanship displayed by the author's previous book, *Futility*; J. C. Snaith's *Thus Far* (Appleton, \$2), a mystery-story dealing with the secret of a scientist who had created a superman; George F. Hummel's *A Good Man* (Boni and Liveright, \$2), a clever satirical portrait of one who appears to the world to be a good man; Charles Major's *Rosalie* (Macmillan, \$2), a novel of adventure in Canada, a century ago, by the author of *Dorothy Vernon of Haddon Hall*; Ben Ames William's *The Rational Hind* (Dutton, \$2), in which a family, once of strong stock, but now impoverished and ineffectual, struggles to uphold its name and preserve its Maine farmlands; G. B. Stern's *Thunderstorm* (Knopf, \$2), in which the author of the successful *Matriarch* tells of an English couple and their servants, installed in an Italian villa; and Flora Klickman's *The Carillon of Scarpa* (Putnam, \$2.50), in which Mrs. Potter-Poggs and her charming daughter, Americans, become paying-guests in the Royal Palace in Scarpa.

There is also a new, typical D. H. Lawrence novel, in his *St. Mawr* (Knopf, \$2), which the librarian will want to read before purchasing. Maxim Gorky's *The Story of a Novel* (Dial Press, \$2.50), includes, besides the title-story, four other short stories. *Georgian Stories, 1925* (Putnam, \$2.50), contains fifteen short stories, of the past year, by eminent English writers.

Other new biographical works include Moses

Montefiore, by Paul Goodman (Jewish Publication Society, \$1.25), telling of the life of an outstanding Jew of nineteenth-century England; *The Queen of Cooks, and Some Kings*, by Mary Lawton (Boni and Liveright, \$3), the amusing story of Rosa Lewis, a scullery-maid, who rose to become one of the most famous cooks in England, and the friend of many notable persons; and *Southern Pioneers*, by Howard W. Odum (Univ. of No. Carolina Pr., \$2), containing biographical sketches of Woodrow Wilson, Walter H. Page, Charles Aycock, and other Southern notables.

Travel-books of note comprise *Ben Kendim*, by Aubrey Herbert (914.96, Putnam, \$4.50), the glamorous record of a modern hegira thru the colorful country of the Near East; and *The Road to Paris*, by Michael Monahan (914, Frank-Maurice, \$4), the illustrated chronicle of a three months' holiday in France and Italy. *Hilaire Belloc's The Cruise of the Nona* (818, Houghton-Mifflin, \$4.50), is not so much a travel-book as it is a long and crowded book of reflections and reminiscences, on life and letters, men and manners.

Other books on Literature include *Playwrights of the New American Theater*, by Thomas H. Dickinson (812, Macmillan, \$2.50), a survey going back to 1900; *Newman as a Man of Letters*, by Joseph J. Reilly (824, Macmillan, \$2.50); and *The Novels of Fielding*, by Aurelian Digeon (823, Dutton, \$4.50), a study by a French critic.

Poetry-books of interest are *Voices of the Stones*, by A. E. (George W. Russell) (821, Macmillan, \$1.50), a new volume of verse by the noted mystic poet; and *A Poetry Recital*, by James Stephens (821, Macmillan, \$1.50), a representative collection of the poet's work, both old and new.

New drama-books include *Ruint*, by Hatcher Hughes (812, Harper, \$1.50), a four-act folk-comedy, produced in New York this year; the fourth series of *Plays of the Forty-Seven Workshop* (812, Brentano's, \$1.25), containing four plays written for Professor Baker's course at Harvard; and *Sea Plays*, by Colin C. Clements (812, Small-Maynard, \$2.50), of interest to little-theater groups.

In Sociology and History we have *Quo Vadimus*, by E. E. Fournier d'Albe (304, Dutton, \$1), discussing, in the *To-day and To-morrow Series*, the future and probable continuance of the human race; *The New History and the Social Studies*, by Harry Elmer Barnes (301, Century, \$4); *Since Lenin Died*, by Max Eastman (355, Boni and Liveright, \$1.50), a communist's view of recent developments in Russia; and *Funds and Friends*, by Tolman Lee (360, Woman's Press, \$1.50), a new manual on raising funds for social work.

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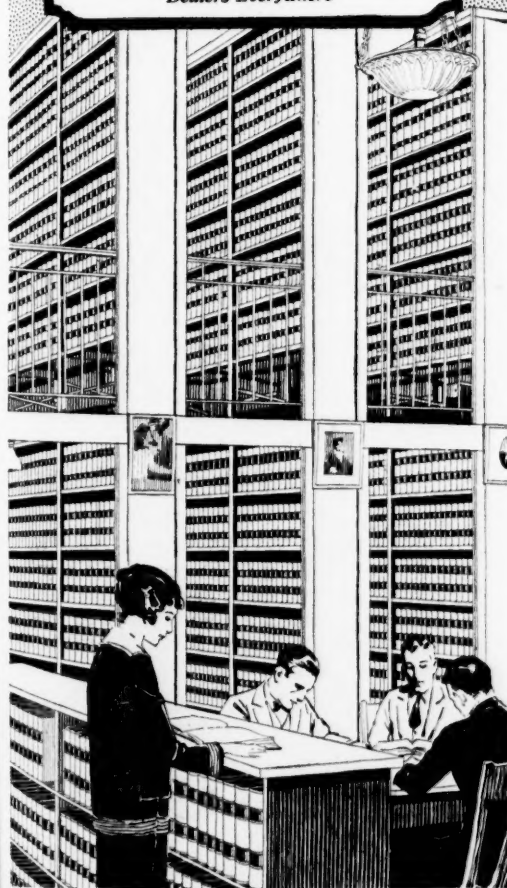
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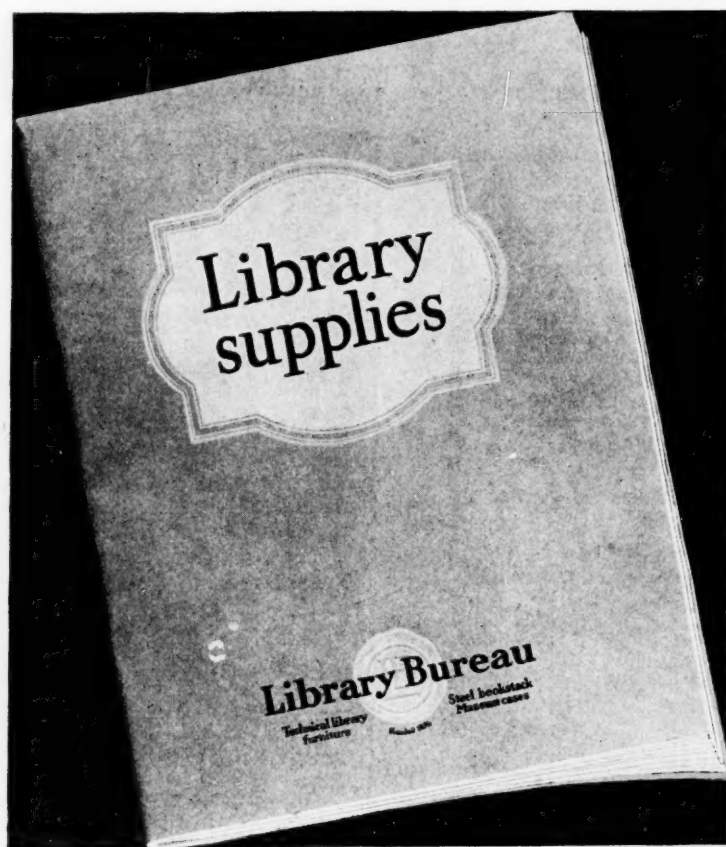
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JULY, 1925



Library Extension—A Movement or a Problem

By HERMAN H. B. MEYER

Director of the Legislative Reference Service of the Library of Congress and President of the American Library Association*

LIBRARY extension—is it a movement that the A. L. A. is leading, or is it a problem that it has been called upon to solve? Twenty-five or thirty years ago library extension meant more libraries, that is more buildings and more books, and we measured our progress by placing another little round dot on the map, indicating a new public library, and certain states, where every town had a public library, were held up as models for the other states to emulate.

Service, if it were thought of at all, was assumed, and most libraries still remained in the primeval or first stage of development, when the library was merely a collection of books and the librarian its custodian. And in some of the states where there were many little dots, there are still libraries, in this present year of grace 1925, that have not passed beyond this first stage of development.

But the idea of service had been creeping in, something less tangible than buildings and books, but because of the spirit something precious. Something that could not be shown by a little black dot on a map, an influence rather than a thing.

In the meanwhile we had the long purse of a public-spirited man to draw upon, and it seemed as if the process of adding library to library might go on forever, or until the map was completely covered with little black dots. But the war came as a rude interruption and demanded service. Librarians with other professions rose to the occasion and the service record of librarians is one of which to be proud. It was demonstrated that the A. L. A. was a living, active, powerful organization capable of doing great things, and not a mere bit of string to tie librarians into a bundle.

Healthy development comes gradually. It is a matter of continuous growth. But it is convenient to place periods, and it is fair to say

that the knell of the old library, a collection of books with the librarian as its custodian, was struck when the American Library Association was founded at Philadelphia, October 6, 1876.

We then entered upon our second stage of development. The library still remained a collection of books but it became an active collection, and every effort was bent to get the books off the shelves into the hands of the readers. The librarian became the dispenser of books. It came indeed to be considered a reflection on the librarian if his books remained on his shelves. We strove hard for circulation and the librarian whose circulation statistics mounted highest was lifted up with them, until he sat on top of his column of figures like another St. Simeon Stylites, basking in the envious admiration of his unreflecting fellows on the ground below. We emphasized quantity at the expense as usual of quality. In selling potatoes quantity statistics are an exact indication of the condition of the business. In circulating books we have come to realize more and more that quality is infinitely superior to quantity, until now at the beginning of our third stage of development we are quite committed to the thesis that library extension refers more to library service than to library equipment. We shall of course continue to strive for more buildings, and better collections of books, not however as an end in themselves but as a means to finer library service that shall in the end become a perfect guidance to the use of books. Of course, we shall never reach perfection, but we can strive for it and so deserve it. Our aim then has become to pass out of the condition of mere dispensers of books, into the condition of guides to the records of human knowledge.

I believe with my predecessor, that the shoemaker should stick to his last, but we ought not to close our eyes to the fact, that fashions may change in library service, as well as in foot-gear, and the librarian who places himself in opposition to the trend of the times will find himself,

* Presidential address at the Forty-seventh Annual Conference of the A. L. A., at Seattle, July 6, 1925.

like the shoemaker who refuses to make the new style shoes, soon put out of business.

Who can say what form the future records of human knowledge will take? In the face of recent advances in science and invention, the wonders of radio for example, we can give free play to our imaginations, and picture to ourselves a future record of human knowledge taking the form perhaps of a minute roll easily carried in the pocket, which placed in an equally minute instrument attached to the ear, and possibly also to the eye, will enable us to listen to a skilled reader with voice of perfect intonation and quality, and see enacted before us a play, a story, an event, as suits the humor of the game.

But I cannot at the behest of science and invention give up my love of books, and after all is said and done, I must keep on believing that the reading of the printed book will continue to be one of the keenest, purest delights a man or woman can enjoy. A quiet Sunday morning with the leaves playing a shimmering chorus to the far withdrawn city noises, which distance has enchanted into music, a house on a hill, a shaded porch, a sermon of Cardinal Newman, that master of beautiful English prose, or a volume of Wordsworth, Chaucer, or Tennyson, why *dream* of heaven?

The true purpose of a society is to bring together those who have a common objective, so that their united effort may produce a larger accomplishment. Our objective is to make this heaven a realizable thing to everyone: let us look to its accomplishment. Now we shall fail utterly in our purpose if we do not send you forth from this conference with an increased desire to work hard for the A. L. A. and to support its officers.

We are still on the threshold, with a tremendous problem before us, the correct solution of which will open up to us limitless opportunities for service, in which there will be a larger element of leadership than has ever been offered to any profession in the history of the world. Are we equal to it, to solving this problem? When I remember that as a profession we are in the first flush of youth, I am further reminded of Emerson's inspiring words:

When duty whispers low, Thou must,
The youth replies, I can.

The first step in the solution of any problem is to state clearly the elements involved and then to trace interrelationships and their reactions on one another. In our problem of library extension they are many and diverse. They are, material in the library and its equipment, personal in the librarians and the public, organic, if I may use the word in its special sense of or-

ganized, in the A. L. A. and other library associations. Of these elements the public is certainly not the least important, but it surely is the most difficult of all. And one of the most promising signs in all our recent effort is the larger attention given to this element of our problems. What is at the bottom of library demonstration, if not a direct attack on the public?

Our libraries, the buildings and their equipment are pretty well adapted to the purpose for which they are intended. We shall continue to adopt new time and labor saving devices as they appear. While we are not likely to change our buildings and their equipment very much in the near future, we shall go on building them in unoccupied territory under the controlling influence of a larger service.

Statisticians tell us over and over again that fully fifty per cent of our people are without library facilities. These are mostly of the rural districts of the south and west. It is not that the people of these regions are less intelligent or eager for library facilities but because the element of distance exercises a controlling influence. It is nothing for fifty city dwellers to make each a short trip to the public library but it is a good deal taken out of the time of fifty dwellers in the country to make fifty long trips to a central library. Knowing this, why has it taken us so long to grasp the idea that the library can thru its book wagon with comparative ease make one trip that shall embrace all the fifty rural dwellers in its circuit? There can be no question that the book wagon is the most notable addition to library equipment that has been made in recent years. As an influence it has made us think county libraries in the same way that we have heretofore been thinking town and city libraries? Could there be better proof of this than the fact that we have had several gifts of county libraries. Further, is there any good reason why the book wagon should not be applied to city service as well? There is surely some method whereby the burden of cost can be placed on those who wish to benefit by such a service. The future will see a book delivery wagon a feature in all our city streets.

Library demonstrations offer an excellent plan for the introduction of library service into regions where no library service now exists. A grant of \$50,000 has been made by the Carnegie Corporation to the League of Library Commissions to enable the League to undertake a demonstration in the state of Louisiana and the League under the active leadership of its president, Mr. Milton J. Ferguson, has already begun operations.

Now it will be easy to select a locality, to find or erect quarters, to purchase books and equipment. It will be not quite so easy to get the right person to take charge. It will be most difficult of all to bring the people to the point where they will be willing to tax themselves for the continued support of the library. This can only be done by convincing them that the benefits derived are worth the outlay and that the library is needed by the community. I have no fear for the result and am quite sure that within the next ten or twenty years we shall see an enormous development of tax-supported county or district libraries thruout all the rural sections of the United States.

The extension of libraries into schools has been going on for a long time, but now that educators have awakened to the fact that reading as a method of education for certain purposes is superior to any other, the urge has come from them and progress has become geometrical it is so rapid. There is danger here. The situation may pass beyond our control and school librarians may become teachers first and librarians incidentally. School librarians should be drawn from the library profession and not from the educators. Fortunately we have now a large and active standing Committee on Education with a representative from each state that is handling this difficult situation, and if the Board of Education for Librarianship will help our schools and training classes to speed up, we may be able to retain control.

No one will dispute that adult education is an important phase of library extension. Indeed from the point of view of library service it may be considered its most important phase. In adult education the wisest things that have been said all focus on the point, as Dr. Bostwick has expressed it, that we must proceed on essentially library lines and not on school lines.

So far the work of the Adult Education Committee has been of the nature of a survey, a going over the ground to note what agencies are available, what they have accomplished, and what tendencies have been disclosed. Special attention has been directed to the Readers Service Bureaus and the Readers Advisers and what has been done has been fine, but after all rather slight. Is there not great danger of dropping into mere dilettantism right here? What are one or two assistants in a city of three millions or even in a city of three hundred thousand people? Perhaps to speak of dilettantism seems like a serious reflection on the movement, but compare two or three individuals with the public school system which makes provision for the children, who constitute a fifth of the population, and consider if we are justified in using

a better term. Is it any wonder that the bureaus and advisers have been overwhelmed? The contacts that have been made are mostly individual and their influence on the community is likely to remain individual, that is slight. It is difficult, if not impossible, to gather them together to produce a cumulative effect. If the bureau or the adviser is to grow into a staff of trained librarians, capable of meeting all the needs of a large community, something more than individual contacts must be made. It will be necessary to make group contacts and the contacts should be groups seeking a real education and not mere club entertainment.

It is thru these group contacts that the sense of a large community to the need of financial support is most likely to be awakened. The groups will demand a staff of trained librarians and with the demand the support will come. A number of libraries are now making contacts with groups engaged in adult education with a view to co-operation. Those embraced in the Workers Education movement for instance are engaged in actual class room or group teaching which is always limited as to time, place and subject, but they have come to stay and are bound to experience a rapid development. With that development will come a demand for subjects not included in their curricula and for a greater latitude of time and place. This is the particular field of the public library in adult education and if properly filled will furnish the best reason for increased financial support—financial support that shall bear some comparison with the financial support now given the educational facilities for children. There are two colossal faults in our social system that are so great that they amount to downright evils. One is an enormous waste, not merely of our material resources, but of our time, the other is that our education ends for most of our citizens when we leave school or college. It is true we get our education from life, but the method of life is the method of nature, which takes a thousand shots to make one hit.

The problem of modern society is to stop the waste, in order that we may have the wherewithal to pay for the things we lack. In the solution of this problem, libraries are destined to play a most important part. Modern progress is based on knowledge, and, we librarians who have been the custodians and dispensers of the records of human knowledge, must become the guides if we are to fulfill our destiny. It is because we have begun to realize this that we are in the midst of this movement for library extension, which is part of the greater movement and problem to save waste in order to make life better worth living. It ought to be clear to us

that we have not only a problem to solve, but a movement to lead.

Now I want to make my survey of library extension comprehensive, in fact I want to use the word in the Irishman's sense, who remarked "When I say comprehensive I mean all there is and everything else besides."

Surely the training of librarians is a vital part of library extension. What is the use of building new libraries, and new service, unless we provide the personnel to operate them?

Mr. Joy E. Morgan, a member of the A. L. A. and now the editor of the *Journal* of the National Education Association, contributed an article to *Public Libraries* of last November under the title "Professional Librarians for the Nation" that ought to have started us but apparently it did nothing of the kind. The article is so significant to us that I am going to quote a brief passage, because I believe with Matthew Arnold that iteration and reiteration is the only way to force a truth home.

"If we should attempt to provide one trained school librarian for each twenty teachers and an equal number of public libraries, we should have a ratio for all librarians of one librarian for every ten teachers. It then becomes possible (taking the figures collected by the U. S. Bureau of Education and the Research division of the National Education Association) to calculate the number of professional librarians that would be required in each of the states and for the nation as a whole.

"Roughly speaking, there are over 700,000 teachers, which would call for 70,000 librarians. If we assume that each of these librarians would serve for a period of ten years after graduation, there would need to be a total of more than 7000 new recruits each year. If, again, we assume that for every nine librarians holding a bachelor's degree there should be one librarian qualified for leadership thru special graduate study, there would be required a class of over seven hundred from graduate schools of librarianship each year."

Of course these figures apply to a comprehensive development. Let us say that we have reached only fifty per cent of this. That would mean 3500 recruits each year. Our library schools provide a little more than a fifth of this number, and our training classes provide twice as many, making a total of about 2000, that still leaves a deficiency of 1500.

Now no one has been in a better position than I to observe the work of the Board of Education for Librarianship. They have impressed me with the dignity, care and exactness with which they are carrying on their work. But I sometimes wonder if they realize that we are in

the midst of a crisis, that we are facing an emergency. I should like to invite their attention to the last three words of the fourth line of the forty-eighth quatrain of the fourth edition of Fitzgerald's translation of the *Rubáiyát* of Omar Khayyám.

The need for county librarians is becoming so great that immediate action is imperative. The situation here parallels the school library situation. I am told that library schools include county libraries in their curricula. True, but it is only one of twenty or thirty subjects all equally attractive and all pulling hard on the prospective librarian. What we want now and want badly are schools or training classes where the point of view is the county library, where the training is centered about the county library, and where the student thinks county libraries. Remember this is not my ideal of library training but it is an emergency training to meet an emergency situation.

The Board of Education for Librarianship in carrying on its work has disclosed a tendency to erect very stringent academic barriers. When these have come under discussion at the open meetings it was evident that there was a plentiful lack of unanimity on this point. Every librarian who has had occasion to engage a large number of assistants prefers the individual with the thinking brain, rather than the individual whose brain is littered with knowledge.

When the Board presents its final report I hope it will not erect academic barriers so high that a nimble active intelligence cannot get over them. To do so would be to defeat its own ends, which I take it are to raise the average intelligence rather than the learning, and to increase the numbers, of the profession.

In any logical discussion of our problems the Survey should come first. It is a taking account of stock. Now we are all going to use the results to our profit. Why not all contribute then to making these results as good as possible? It is only a short time ago that we passed the fifty per cent mark. More than forty per cent of the libraries to whom the questionnaire was sent still remain to be heard from. This indicates a lack of professional spirit. By that I mean a willingness to work with the majority for the benefit of the profession, especially when we find ourselves of a different mind. We all know that if we had left undone those things with which we were not in accord, a great many good things would have remained unaccomplished.

This brings us to the third element in our problems, the organized element, represented by our professional organizations, the A. L. A. and the regional, local, and special library associ-

ations. The A. L. A. has frequently been likened to a clearing house, and it is becoming more and more so. It is the place where we bring our new ideas and our new problems for comparison and discussion, and from which we take away a store of information and practice to be applied to the solution of our local problems back home. Our Committee on Education, which is concerning itself chiefly with the school library problem, in its development as a committee, has shown a well nigh perfect appreciation of the function of the A. L. A., and its relationship to the local organizations and problems. The full committee has a member from each state, and is organized into various subcommittees on special problems. No one would dream of suggesting a school library association. That would mean a burden of officers and expenses now borne by the A. L. A., and further, a diversion of energy for association business that would better be employed on the work of the committee. We have here a promising example of further development within the A. L. A. that is worth the most careful study by its officers, with a view to its extension to other committees that concern themselves with nationwide problems.

The A. L. A. has become a working organization, attempting to solve problems, many of which require a considerable staff with a directing head—the Survey for example. Here we have taken Mr. Thompson from the headship of a city library system to carry on this work. Can we as a profession go on doing this? Something like it will probably have to be done for the library demonstration. Perhaps we can profit from the experience of the teaching profession, which parallels our own in many respects, and develop a small group of trained administrators, who can devote all their time to studying special problems, without being taken from, or burdened with library administration.

But the third element in our problem is not limited to library associations. It needs no great prophet to look into the future and see that our national interests and questions will be taken care of by three national organizations. Our national library, the Library of Congress, a United States Bureau of Libraries, and the American Library Association.

The Library of Congress under Dr. Putnam's administration has become more truly a national library than any other in the world. It has become the model, and other national libraries are striving to do the things the Library of Congress has been doing for years. As Dr. Putnam has pointed out in his annual reports and elsewhere, the service which the Library of Congress can render must be based on the printed book. It

supplies printed catalog cards, it places its immense resources at the service of reference librarians in answering difficult questions—snags—where their own resources fail, it furnishes bibliographical information, prepares reference lists, and has developed a comprehensive inter-library loan system, thru which, supplemented by photostats, it makes its resources available to scholars all over the country. Thru its special divisions, such as the Music Division, and the Division of Maps and Charts, where the collections have become practically complete, it has become the very foundation of these subjects in America. Those of you who come to Washington should visit the Maps Division, now in charge of Col. Lawrence Martin, an eminent geographer before he came to us. There you will see a use of maps for the graphic display of contemporary history, that tells more in a single glance than chapters can convey.

Finally, the Library of Congress is developing a union catalog of books and serials that will be of immense aid to scholars in locating rare, out of the way, or other publications difficult to secure. The next step is of course to undertake to circularize libraries, in order to locate publications not in the union catalog. This has been tried and found to be, if I may express it in the jargon of business, a "workable proposition."

The second of the national organizations mentioned above, is the bureau of libraries. Who can doubt that it will be established as part of the Department of Education? A new bill for the establishment of this department has just been drawn up, to be introduced in the next Congress. Representatives of the A. L. A. took part in the conference which revised this bill, and it deserves the support of every member of the Association. Certain features found objectionable in the earlier bills have been eliminated. The new bill seeks to establish a clear-cut Department of Education with no frills or appendages. It takes over the educational organizations existing in the government. It establishes no new bureaus. They will be taken care of in the logical development which will follow the establishment of the department, and among them will be a bureau of libraries. Clearly the chief function of the bureau, in the future development of libraries in the United States, will be to represent the people. It should gather statistics and publish them. It should prepare directories. It should serve as a storehouse for information about public libraries as public institutions, it should supplement the work of the state commissions, correlate them, and act as a clearing house for them.

The state commissions are prepared for the

most part to answer the call—how shall we go about establishing a library? And many of them have gathered information about the experience of other states which they are willing to give out. But why should any state library commission serve as a bureau of information for the whole country, that is clearly a national function, which belongs to a national bureau?

Lastly, there remains the A. L. A. Do I dare to define its scope in the presence of so many experts, so much better prepared and better able to do it? I get no help from headquarters. When I look at their eager interest, and amazing activity in the use of their limited resources and quarters, I can see that they are ready to usurp the whole field.

The A. L. A. has been defined as a professional and scientific organization, and the two qualifying words are full of meaning for our purpose. The word professional implies a profession which means a group of persons pursuing a common end in the application of a body of scientific knowledge to the life of the community. One function of the A. L. A. should be then to look after all matters touching directly the professional interests of librarians as librarians. The other function arises out of the word scientific. It should be the duty of the A. L. A. to develop library science to its highest point, and to improve the tools and methods by which this branch of human knowledge is applied to the affairs of life.

We call ourselves the *American Library Association*, and Canadian librarians constitute a small but important part of our membership. At the celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Ontario Library Association I was much impressed by the wide-spread interest in, and grasp of, the library matters under discussion, and felt that perhaps we were not making the use of our Canadian colleagues on our committees and other bodies that we should. Moreover, on the basis of population, we should meet at least once every ten years in the Dominion. Should we not look also to the development of our connections south of the Mexican border?

Now in closing I cannot miss so good an opportunity of referring to our approaching semi-centennial and the A. L. A. headquarters building. The Council some time ago voted that the location of the headquarters building should be determined by an absolute majority vote of all members of the Association. There will never be a more fitting time and occasion to take this vote than at our Conference in 1926. No greater single step in our development can be taken, at that time, and it is eminently fitting

that this should be a feature of our semi-centennial celebration.

We began our professional work as mere custodians of the records of human knowledge, we have been passing thru the period when we were the dispensers of the records of human knowledge, it is our ambition to become the guides to the records of human knowledge. Can there be a higher ambition! It is almost priestly in its character, and it is with a spirit, not unmixed with reverence, that we should approach it.

A New Survey of Library Schools

LIBRARY schools were selected by the Board of Education for Librarianship for first attention during 1924-25 and for the subject of its first annual report because of the excess of demand for their graduates over supply, the complaints of shortcomings of library schools, their financial needs, the appeals for a more definite and specialized type of education for librarianship, and the unity which already exists in this group of agencies. The term library school is used thruout the report because it applies to fourteen of eighteen agencies considered, the others being departments of liberal arts colleges.

The Board, created at the Saratoga Springs Conference, was organized formally last September. During its first year it has made the present survey of library schools in the United States, assembled data regarding education for librarianship, secured a ruling from the Association of American Universities regarding degrees to be conferred upon completion of library curricula, formulated for the consideration of the Council minimum standards for various types of library schools, and laid out a program of future work, which includes a study of all types of library training, summer courses, training and apprentice classes, courses for school librarians, correspondence courses, etc.

A scarcity of well-qualified librarians exists. The Board is convinced of this by its survey of the field. One serious effect of this shortage is a too rapid promotion of promising beginners. Seven thousand new school librarians are needed annually, whereas the total number of former students from all library schools who were engaged in library work in December, 1924, was approximately 4527. No existing library school offers instruction adequate to important developments in library work. The Board believes that there is need for more as well as for larger library schools. Certain sections of the country cannot be well served by existing schools. The whole weight of the Board's advice, however, is against starting a new school unless the requisite financial support is assured and unless the right

type of practice field is at hand. The shortage of librarians can be met to a considerable extent by increasing the number of students in schools now existing.

Tables of great value have been compiled as one result of the Board's survey and form appendices to the present report. The first is a list of library schools arranged by date of establishment, followed by others showing the scholastic preparation of students enrolled in eighteen library schools last October; enrollment and output of eighteen library schools; colleges and universities in the United States represented by baccalaureate degrees held by students on admission to seventeen library schools; number and percentage of students holding on entrance to seventeen library schools baccalaureate degrees from accredited institutions; regional location of the colleges and universities in the United States represented by baccalaureate degrees held by students on admission to seventeen library schools; and the number of baccalaureate degrees from foreign institutions held by students on admission to twelve library schools. College graduates constituted forty-eight per cent of the total registration of students in library schools in October, 1924, altho only two schools required such preparation for entrance, and the registration for these two schools was only seventeen per cent of the total. Since America leads in library methods it is not surprising to learn that one hundred and ten foreigners holding baccalaureate degrees, representing forty-two institutions in sixteen countries have been enrolled in twelve American library schools.

Two other projects in which the Board is interesting itself are the provision of scholarships and fellowships and the establishment of a library school for Negroes.

Minimum standards for library schools and the curriculum to be offered in approved schools form the most important section of the report. In these standards it has outlined an advanced library school, comparable with the graduate library schools of other professions, which shall prepare for scholarly and highly specialized work and for administrative and executive positions. It is hoped that some of the schools already in existence will adopt these standards and that advanced graduate library schools will be developed as rapidly as may be consistent with the needs of the profession. These standards cover two types of undergraduate and two of graduate schools. The junior undergraduate school should be connected with an approved library, college or university, require for entrance one year of college work, and grant a certificate. The senior undergraduate library school should be connected with an approved de-

gree-conferring institution, require for entrance three years of college work, and grant a bachelor's degree. Of the graduate schools, the graduate library school should be connected with an approved degree-conferring institution, require for entrance a college degree, and grant a certificate. The advanced graduate library school should be an integral part of a university which meets the standards for graduate study laid down by the Association of American Universities, require for entrance a college degree and the successful completion of an approved one-year professional curriculum, and grant a master's degree for the satisfactory completion of one year of further professional study, and the Ph.D. degree under the university regulations governing the granting of that degree. The logical arrangement would be to have no division in the graduate library schools. College graduates, however, who have had no previous library education or experience are not equipped to enroll for the strictly graduate work offered in the advanced graduate library school, and the graduate library school offers to them a course of study including the fundamentals required in all types of library work, with some opportunity for specialization. Provision is made thruout the Standards for the admission of the student of exceptional ability who cannot meet fully the entrance requirements. A reasonable length of time, until September, 1927, has been allowed for schools to comply with the Standards in regard to the instructional staff.

Reasonable Budgets for Public Libraries

"Reasonable Budgets for Public Libraries and Their Units of Expense" by O. R. Howard Thomson, librarian of the James V. Brown Library of Williamsport, Pa. (Chicago: A. L. A., 44p., pap.) is a revision of A. L. A. Library Handbook No. 9 by the same author published in 1913. The thesis of the earlier work is adhered to, according to the Foreword; the method of presentation is different. The figures have been brought up to date. In the matter of duplicate pay collections and circulating magazine collections a change of faith is recorded, the author now believing that both are legitimate and desirable in public libraries. A library in a city of 30,000 population is selected as a typical case and a budget of seven items with subdivisions, such as is used in the author's own library, is outlined and fully explained. It is assumed that the library has receipts of one dollar per capita. With "Emergency" and "Unassigned" items omitted the budget is reduced to \$24,842.50, or 80.2 cents per capita.

The Year with Special Libraries Association

By DANIEL N. HANDY

Librarian of the Insurance Library Association of Boston and President of the Special Libraries Association*

YOU will recall that last year in Saratoga conditions which for some time had been shaping themselves culminated in an attempt to dissolve the Special Libraries Association, and to merge what was deemed to be its most active group with the American Library Association as an affiliated business section. Those who planned this action were clearly in the minority. Nevertheless, so quietly and so systematically had they worked that when the convention opened at Saratoga they nearly succeeded in their enterprise. They already had drafted for presentation at the business session of the convention a resolution which may be summarized briefly as follows:

The S. L. A. having accomplished its work was to cease to exist. The persons nominated for officers of S. L. A. were upon election to constitute themselves a committee to negotiate with A. L. A. for merging our Association with the latter body. This they were to accomplish by merging the various groups of our Association with similar groups of A. L. A., and by gathering up the various groups affiliated with business into a business section.

Special Libraries, the official organ of our Association, was to be copyrighted in the name of the newly elected officers, thus effectively preventing any attempt on the part of its unreconciled remnants to carry on after the completion of the merger. The newly elected officers having successfully materialized their project of disbanding our Association and of merging a fraction of it with A. L. A. as a business group were to become the "Executive Board of the Business Libraries Section of the American Library Association."

As soon as the true purpose of this movement was disclosed, the reaction against it was prompt and general. Officers were elected pledged to carry on the Association and the incoming president was instructed to appoint a committee to make a survey of it.

Following the convention some confusion and uncertainty naturally resulted. Nevertheless from every part of the country there came to your officers from influential members of the Association the most generous assurance of loyalty and support. These, I think, have been cumulative thruout the year.

I suppose that the question of merging our

Association with A. L. A. will always have its appeal for a few of our members; but for the overwhelming majority I suspect it never has had and I believe it never will have more than academic interest.

Saratoga decided once for all that the Special Libraries Association will determine and control its own destiny.

In spite of the uncertainties which marked its beginning and which to some extent have characterized its entire course, the year just closed has witnessed enduring and substantial progress in the Association.

We have organized under our revised constitution; we have added nearly ninety members—more than offsetting our losses; we have set the magazine more nearly than ever before on a self-supporting basis; we have published the second edition of the Directory; we have affiliated with us six local special library Associations; and we have seen nearly every active group within the Association organized and affiliated with it as provided for in the amended by-laws.

We have witnessed, too, a growing unity and an increasing loyalty to the S. L. A. notwithstanding that during the entire year active efforts on the part of some have been made to alienate from it influential portions of its membership.

The Executive Board held during the year three meetings.

Its first and most difficult task was the selection of an editor of *Special Libraries*. The field was canvassed very thoroly. The Association is to be congratulated upon the acceptance of this difficult position by Mr. H. O. Brigham, state librarian of Rhode Island, and one of its veteran members. Mr. Brigham accepted the task with reluctance and at no inconsiderable sacrifice. You, who have followed the progress of the magazine during the last six or eight months, will not need to be told that it has prospered in his hands. Not only has he maintained and even bettered the standard of its contents and greatly improved its mechanical appearance; but he has substantially increased the revenue derived from advertising. In fact, the revenues from this source during the past six months are in excess of those received in any previous six years since the magazine was founded.

Special Libraries is the only existing medium thru which the activities of special libraries can be brought to public notice. It is a clearing house of information.

* President's address at the Sixteenth Annual Convention of the Special Libraries Association at Swampscott, Mass., June 24, 1925.

It is a significant if at the same time a sinister fact that when it was sought at Saratoga to wind up the affairs of the Association, and to incorporate some part of its membership into the A. L. A. as a business section, the resolution which was to make this action effective provided for the copyrighting of *Special Libraries* and for the lodgment of this copyright in the hands of the Committee which was to be authorized to bring the Association to an end. We can scarcely overestimate the value to the Association and the ideas for which it stands of this magazine intelligently and courageously edited. We can scarcely overestimate the loss that the Association would sustain if the magazine were at any time to be removed from its control. It is of the utmost importance that means be found to insure its continued existence and its definite and steady expansion.

Under the constitution adopted at Saratoga, provision was made for affiliation with the national Special Libraries Association of associations in various cities, and for the formation of new associations in cities where a sufficient number of members of the national association should express a desire for local organization. Under this section of the constitution, existing associations affiliated themselves with the national association as follows: Boston Special Libraries Association, New York Special Libraries Association, Pittsburgh Special Libraries Association, Special Libraries Association of San Francisco, Special Libraries Association of Southern California.

As the year closed a group of special librarians in Chicago desirous of forwarding the special libraries movement met and determined to form a Chicago Special Libraries Association, and to make application for its affiliation with the national association. Since the close of our fiscal year, your President has received an application from this group and your Executive Board has approved its organization and affiliation with the national association.

The by-laws as adopted under the new constitution also provide for the affiliation with the national association of groups consisting of librarians and other members interested in identical or closely related subjects. Under these by-laws the following have petitioned for group affiliation which has been granted by the Executive Board: Advertising-Commercial-Industrial, Financial, Insurance, Newspaper, and Technology.

The constitution provides that the Executive Board shall have the advice of an Advisory Council consisting of the presidents of the local affiliated special libraries associations. During the past year the presidents of the Boston and New

York special libraries associations met with the Executive Board. It is hoped that in the future local associations will be represented at all meetings of the Board. Their advice is greatly desired. They can do much to bring to the national Executive Board problems of the local associations and to aid the national Executive Board in finding ways and means for closer co-operation between the national and local organizations.

The activities of the groups have been particularly significant. The Newspaper Group, the most recently organized, has been the most active. It has set a standard for other groups to measure up to. We have yet to learn how group activities can be made most useful to their members. One of our tasks is to work out ways for increasing group usefulness.

But perhaps most significant of all was the exhibit of the Financial Group, prepared for the last annual meeting of the American Bankers Association in Chicago. This exhibit, intelligently conceived and splendidly executed, brought *Special Libraries* and our Association to the favorable attention of one of the most influential groups of business men in America. That it was productive of excellent results will appear from the report of the Financial Group and of the Exhibit Committee which later will be submitted for your approval.

Several committees have been active during the year. The Directory Committee had as the year began brought its work well along. Under its leadership the work was completed and the Directory issued. The report of the Directory Committee will tell you something of the work which this has involved. The report of the selling agent and of the treasurer will disclose the success which has crowned the efforts of those charged with selling and distributing it.

Extension of our membership is always a vital matter. During the year the President appointed a Membership Committee. You will hear from them in a special report. This Committee with little funds at its disposal undertook to present our case very briefly to a small group of people to whom our appeal has never before been made. Four hundred and twenty-five reply post cards were sent out. From these eighty returns were received asking for further information concerning the Association and its work. Several memberships resulted. It is evident that it is possible to add substantially to our membership thru the cultivation of these various fields.

The Methods Committee has continued its work and submits to the present Convention an exhibit which will prove interesting. A study of special schemes of classification being made

by a subcommittee of the Methods Committee is, I understand, revealing much that is of interest. We shall hear from the Chairman of this subcommittee later.

We are indebted to the Program Committee, and to the Convention Committee of the Special Libraries Association of Boston for the preparation of this program and for the special features which it exhibits. The names of those composing these committees appear on the official program.

An important problem, which greatly concerns us, is the attitude which we are to assume towards other organizations. Personally, I have never doubted that an active canvass would disclose many interests in common between our Association and such associations of information users as the American Statistical Association, the various chambers of commerce, the Trade Association Executives Association, and bodies interested primarily in investigation and research. We can, I think, and doubtless should make the effort to impress upon these bodies the value of our Association and the desirability of mutual representation at annual meetings, and possibly of mutual affiliation.

With the American Library Association, we aim to cultivate relations which shall be those of good will, confidence, and active co-operation. We realize that librarians of every class have much in common. We want to discover and develop these common interests. Insofar as public libraries are repositories of information, they are indispensable to special library workers. We cannot, however, ignore the fact that public libraries are for the most part not repositories of information in the sense that the special librarian thinks of information. Outside of fifteen or twenty of the largest public libraries, very few in America are equipped to render more than occasional and perfunctory aid to persons seeking information for immediate or practical use. Statistics clearly show the non-informational character and function of the typical American public library. Essentially, it is a repository for and a distributor of fiction and of information characteristically academic in form. It offers little help to the special librarian.

This, of course, does not mean that this work of public libraries is not important. It means merely that their work is different—and so fundamentally so that it is hard to see where their interests and ours can long run even parallel.

I have thought that the Special Libraries Association might align itself in a helpful manner with the clearly popular tendency to survey things if it should undertake a survey of the public library field, especially with a view to disclosing the precise extent to which the pub-

lic library is now willing and able to co-operate effectively in the informational services rendered by special libraries. Such a survey, if competently made, would doubtless reveal to special and public librarians many unsuspected avenues of mutual approach, as well as point the way to co-operative opportunities of considerable value. It would also serve as the basis of a classification of public libraries as respects their ability to render informational service, which would in time be useful to the special librarian.

The Association has never faced a future more promising. Nevertheless, it has problems, and they are serious. They can be solved, every one of them, if our members so will it. But their solution calls for resolution, for steadfastness, for some self-sacrifice, and above all things for patience. Nothing worth while is done in a day. It is not always pleasing and it is seldom spectacular, to do the homely tasks of cultivating and watering, of clipping and pruning that are necessary between the planting and the harvesting—and yet these must be done. We are, moreover, in some sense on trial. It is for us to say whether we as members can bring to this Association the qualities which will give it enduring life. We can make of it what we will. If we leave the load to be carried by a few, they will break under it, and as they succumb they will take with them the Association. We can listen to the voices of skepticism and doubt until our sense of loyalty is gone—and with it too will go the Association. We can by indifference condemn the Association to a perfunctory existence until it dies of its own inertia.

But I am persuaded that the S. L. A. is composed of sturdier elements than these imply. I am persuaded that we are entering upon a new period of devotion to the Association. I am persuaded that our membership is to be imbued with new purpose; that our local associations and our national Association are to be reknit into a common pattern; that our groups are to increase and to take on new life; that we are to approach appreciably nearer the point where an established office will give to our present scattered and handicapped efforts, the direction which will render them effective.

We need permanent organization. We must bend every effort to this end. United we shall present to those to whom our appeal must be made, a picture that will inspire and deserve their confidence and good will. Divided we shall neither win their confidence nor retain our own.

I call upon special librarians everywhere who have faith in their calling and wish to see it exalted, to join their officers in the effort to make come true the dream of sixteen years.

Books for Everybody

A SURVEY OF LIBRARY AGENCIES WHICH WILL MEET THE NEEDS OF ALL THE POPULATION
BY JULIA G. BABCOCK, LIBRARIAN OF THE KERN COUNTY FREE LIBRARY, BAKERSFIELD, CALIF.*

A REAL service never ends. It may change its form, losing perhaps an outgrown caudal appendage, but retaining vestiges of its Darwinian tubercle to identify it with its predecessor. Thus its life continues to progress.

The blazing pine knot and the tallow dip have developed into the modern electric light, but we retain the candle for artistic effect whether it be an electric light masquerading in candle form or a glorified candle of barberry or exquisitely tinted wax. We honor the candle, we use electricity. The "old oaken bucket" has gone its unsanitary way and has given place to the modern water plant which supplies unlimited quantities of pure water for all purposes.

One of the first essentials to persons living on farms was to have roads so as to get produce to market and to make contacts with the outside world. So paths and trails were widened into roads, roads were improved from mud holes to plank roads, from plank roads to cobble stones, from cobble stones to paving blocks, and finally to the smooth highway of crushed rock and cement, and if there be further advancement in road building methods we shall shortly have them. Better roads demanded better types of vehicles. The "spring wagon" gave way to the Studebaker, the Bain and other makes for hauling purposes and the Conestoga for use in migrating to new lands farther west, and then came the motor truck adapted to every kind of heavy transportation. The buggy gave place to the touring car and the limousine. Rural free delivery of mail brought letters and the world of print without delay to the door of the dweller remote from the centers of population, and did more perhaps for the farm home than any other single improvement. Then followed parcel post by means of which anything could be sent anywhere by anybody for a few cents, whenever the rural carrier came by on his route. Then the carrier acquired an automobile and now we have swift airmail service. The humble paper pattern made it possible for the person living in Thetford Center, Vermont, or in Cache Creek, California, to wear the latest New York styles. The rural telephone marked another long stride forward for the comfort and safety and convenience of the farm home. The farmer's wife needed no longer be lonely or in need of help in time of

emergency, for she could take down the receiver and chat with a neighbor, or as sometimes happens on a rural line, with the whole neighborhood at once.

Thomas Edison said recently, "When the need for some new thing becomes insistent men always find it." And so when Mr. Melvil Dewey looked out over the state of New York and saw the people in rural districts without book service, he besought the Legislature to provide funds by which traveling libraries could be sent to any part of the state. Carefully selected libraries of a hundred volumes each were sent out for six months at a time. Study clubs, small libraries, university extension centers, all availed themselves of this opportunity. Other states saw the light and took up the same plan.

In 1898, Ohio passed two county library laws. One empowered the county to accept the gift of a library building for the use of all the people of city and county, and to levy a tax on the property of the county for its maintenance; the other made it possible for cities of the first class to extend the service of the public library to the people of the county. Thus Van Wert County was provided for by the gift of the Brumback Library, and Hamilton County by the extension of the service of the Cincinnati Public Library. Other county libraries have been established under the same laws. During the same year, Washington County, Maryland, secured the passage of a bill by which both this county and the city of Hagerstown were permitted to make an appropriation for library extension. This is the library that made the "book wagon" famous, and with which other city libraries with county extension departments have continued to vie until it would almost appear that some book automobile or auto train might yet be devised by which the entire library and its staff might be sent out upon wheels to make possible the widest selection of books by the people as well as to give a choice in personnel.

Within a few years many states had provided for some form of library extension service to the people residing outside of cities. The idea had taken root and was bound to yield an abundant harvest.

In April, 1899, Mr. James L. Gillis was made librarian of the State Library of California. Mr. Gillis brought to the position wide business and political experience, together with vision,

*Paper read at the A. L. A. Conference at Seattle, July, 1925.

energy, and broad-mindedness. He realized at once how short was the reach of the state library, how narrow its service. He saw the people of the state outside of a few cities without books. He saw the inadequacy of the libraries of the district schools, many of which were mere monuments to the persuasive wiles of subscription book agents. (This is not a fling at books which are sold by subscription.) The few copies of good juveniles which had found their way into the school library were worn to shreds. A thought was thus sown in the mind of Mr. Gillis which later found its expression in the relation of the county library to the school. A traveling library service was started which gave good service for several years, but California is too large a state to cover in this way. Distances are too great and transportation too costly. One county in the state had already begun to give a county-wide service. A workable county library law was passed in 1909. It was changed in certain important particulars in 1911, and is the law under which forty-two county libraries have begun work. One of the best features of this law is its permissive rather than compulsory nature. It is under the direct control of the county Board of Supervisors. It provides for the establishment of a separate county free library to be located at the county seat and provides that a tax not to exceed one mill on the dollar valuation of county property may be levied for its maintenance. It also makes it permissible for the county to contract with an existing library for service to the county, but while a number of county library departments began in this way, only four remain as contract libraries. The law provides for a trained librarian who must be certificated by the State Board of Library Examiners. City and town libraries, if they so desire may become a part of the county free library. School districts and high schools may contract for service. If they do not like it they can withdraw as easily as they got in. Back of the county library stands the State Library with supervision and help at any time and with readiness to loan to any library, branch or station, any book from its shelves which may be too rare or too costly for the county to purchase. By means of the union catalog at the State Library, information may be obtained as to what library in the state has the book if it is not available from the State Library. The inter-library loan of books amounts to a large number in any year.

I speak more fully of the California County Free Library law, and its workings, not because other states have not good laws, not because the service is ideal. It isn't. Much remains to be accomplished, and when that which is in sight has been brought to pass, there will be new

needs to cover. But the plan permits of the realization of ideals and works toward that end. By the provisions of this law county libraries have reached a fuller development than in any other state.

The school and the county library should work side by side and hand in hand but the one should not be subordinated to the other any more than individuals by the marriage ceremony. While the work of the county library with the schools is a very important one, it is but a part of the plan. The principal reason for establishing such a library was to reach all the people of the county. Some provision had already been made for the schools. The greatest need of some adult may be for the book of fiction, something to take the mind from the carking cares of the day, something to relieve the weary brain of the tired body before seeking rest in sleep.

We sometimes think of the desert as a drear place where only the sick or the down-and-out live. We find in the desert for one reason or another persons of the very highest education, men and women who are developing big projects for others or smaller ones for themselves. They and their children need books. As one teacher wrote to a county librarian, "The county library is all that stands between us and utter desolation." Power plants and oil pumping stations as well as homesteads take the best of people into arid and uncultivated desert areas. The desert has a spirit and it can be wooed and when won is something never to be lost. There is also that other spirit of the desert depicted in the little play, "Desert Smoke," that spirit which beckons to the prospector and holds him year after year in its power. A county librarian tells of a visit into Death Valley. They started early one morning and by dusk had reached Shoshone, one of the stations on the Tonopah and Tidewater Railway. They had traveled over two hundred and fifty miles, and had varied in altitude from a mile high to seventeen feet below sea level. At Shoshone the teacher had been encouraging the reading of books for the library certificate, and the children had read the required number, altho the father of one of them boasted that he had never read a novel, and possibly no other book. At Tecopa the custodian read all the books. She said she had to do so in order to know what books to recommend. May her tribe increase! The next day they visited the mine of a certain borax company "on the side of a barren mountain, with soil impregnated with borax and no water at all. Nothing grows there. But they have made themselves very comfortable there on their mountain-side, bringing water from Death Valley Junction by train daily, and

have piped it to their homes which are equipped with modern bath rooms. There is a little group of cultivated people here who make their own society. They gave a well-chosen, well-presented play and this was followed by a dance."

City libraries have always done much excellent work with their foreign population, but there are foreigners scattered all thru the counties outside of cities and these need the same sort of help. In a county where there are many Armenians, contacts have been made with them thru the cultured persons among them, usually the ministers and priests, and books have been ordered from Constantinople. Thus an Armenian branch has been established. The children are very quickly assimilated. Branches for other groups of foreigners have been established in numerous outlying districts.

County libraries are serving all county institutions. The hospitals, the sanitariums, the old people's homes, every department is supplemented with the book service. Even the speed cops need a dictionary and a map. As one of them said, "We have a good typewriter but it doesn't always spell correctly." At one old people's home there are ninety-five inmates, nine women. The library here is open twice a week and has an excellent collection of new fiction and travel as well as other books. A librarian goes from the main library and after exchanging the books for those who are able to walk, she takes the book truck into the wards for the bedridden to make their selections. The old ladies especially look forward to these visits, for she brings them bits of news as well as purchases which she has made for them in town, from hair curlers and face powder to cheese and apples.

County officials are supplied with reference books for their departments, the county superintendent of schools, the special supervisors of whatever subject may be their specialty, music, art, physical education or other. Excellent work is being done with the music record for the schools, as well as for individuals thru the branches. Many teachers in small schools unable to specialize in music, must teach that subject. The music supervisor visits the school and plans out the work that is to be done before her next visit. She tells the teacher what records to ask for thru the county library. Anyone who has observed a lesson in music appreciation given with the aid of music records can no longer be skeptical as to the real value of the music record. Many schools have purchased player pianos and for these good music is supplied by means of music rolls which are sometimes used to furnish music for community dances as well. The county farm advisor, the home demonstration agent, the horticulturist all have their col-

lections of reference books. When the Boy Scouts go out for their annual camping, a good supply of books goes with them, and the boys pride themselves upon seeing that every book is returned and in good condition. The "Kid-die Camp," where under-nourished children go for six weeks of outdoor life and good food, is supplied with books enough and to spare, and here the children's librarian goes and spends a half-day with each group telling stories and discussing books with them.

The men on oil leases and at pumping plants have a recreation hall and a club secretary, and this makes a fine opportunity for a branch library, for the secretary will care for the books and there is abundant space for a reading room. At all these clubs the services of the custodians are entirely free to the library as they are glad to have the service. If a man is pursuing a course of study the library provides the books for his use. If the highly specialized book is requested, the State Library is asked to send it. If beyond that the National Library at Washington could be called upon readily for the book which is not found in any library in the state, the circle would be complete and service sure.

In one beautiful mountainous county, two art classes had been started among the women before the county library took up the work, but what the members wanted was a systematic study of art from its earlier phases to the present time, so they asked the librarian to lead such a class. Nine members followed the course meeting each week for eight months. Books and pictures were furnished by the county library augmented by the resources of the State Library, which also furnished pictures for an exhibit. The librarian took from the state university a correspondence course in art appreciation which she passed on to the class in addition to the regular class study. This work was continued for two years.

An isolated student in the high Sierras, who wished to take a course in engineering with the state university, arranged with the county library to supply the books. This is done with students anywhere. A crippled boy living too far in the country for his family to secure books from any branch or station, was supplied with books from the main library so that he was able to take a high school course with the aid of a tutor. Why could not a similar service be made available to any person of any age anywhere in the United States?

The librarian of a county library having at its county seat a Teachers' College, said that they had "arranged with that institution to give the teachers in training, some instruction in the use of the library and in the selection of children's books. The college granted one unit as credit

for the course which consisted of eighteen lectures, one each week thruout the term given jointly by the head of the school department and the children's librarian. Particular emphasis is laid on the service given to schools by the county library, as much time is lost by teachers going into a county where the service is available if they do not understand how to secure it promptly and fully."

One of the long steps forward in education has been the establishment of schools for the children of the migratory laborers who go from crop to crop, from asparagus (grass, they call it) to beets, from beets to grapes, from grapes to walnuts, from walnuts to cotton. A delightful Irishwoman who was for a time in charge of this work in various parts of the state, worked wonders with these illiterates in a few weeks. If the children have been in school before they are taken into the regular classes, if not, they are taught in a separate room or building for the period of their stay. Why cannot our Uncle Sam catch all these wandering peoples whether they be laborers or true gypsies traveling no longer in covered wagons, but in Cadillac and other high-powered cars, but with the same horde still of grimy children, and send them all to school? A little education need not interfere with their nomadic life.

Every county library should have a children's librarian, who would see that the boys and girls have an abundance of the right kind of books and magazines. She should have power to act when she finds collections of books in schools or libraries poor in selection or in physical condition. A children's librarian must needs be as "wise as a serpent and as harmless as a dove." She cannot say, "You must not read that, but you must read this," unless she wants the exact opposite done. (That is the trouble with the Eighteenth Amendment.) She must instead see that there is enough and to spare of "this," none at all of "that." It has been advocated at times that there be a state supervisor of library work with children, and this is well if nothing better can be done, but would it not be better to have in every county a children's librarian to work closely with the children?

There is a group of persons beyond the pale of many of life's privileges but who are being reached wonderfully with book service,—the men in prisons and jails, in some cases not so different from the rest of us except that they have been caught. The librarian in a county where a state prison is located provides them with a well selected library and gives personal attention to their requests for books which will aid them in courses of study. From the same prison, men under certain conditions are permitted to go to the road camps and help to build splen-

did highways for the state. The camp has all the appearance of any other road camp beautifully situated in a natural amphitheatre, and the restrictions are simple and the guards very few. They have the best of food and good bunk houses for which they pay by their labor. All that they earn over and above expenses accrues to their credit to be given to them when they go out to face the world again. Here in the camp is a fine little library well-cared for, appreciated, and the books are never lost. What would it mean in this country of ours if work of this kind could be done for all prisoners not by the super-sentimental nor by the ultra-harsh, but by those fitted to conduct the work effectively?

The exceeding joy of county library work is that it constantly opens some new possibility of library development. It is never complete. After a branch or a station has been established in every possible and impossible place, a program of branch library building should begin. If the tax-levying body once sees the advantage of erecting suitable library buildings in the larger communities it awakens a new interest in the library, and communities vie with each other in their efforts to be next in line. If the community provides the site, the county library should be able to build at least one building each year, furnish it properly and make it adequate to the needs of the section it serves. This should be included in the budget just as are books and all the other needs of the library. The difference between each community owning and managing its own library and a county wide library service is the difference between a fixed collection of books, growing slowly, supported meagerly, unable to exchange its collection, and the larger library which can send out new books continually, call in those that are not being used, rebind when rebinding is needed, and keep all phases of the work up to date. Let the county library sign become not only a state-wide symbol but let it become as familiar as the telephone sign, going wherever it has gone, and preceding it into many places where the telephone may not reach for years to come. In a recent editorial the *Nation* says, "Our American public library system is the largest ready-made instrument for adult education in the world. It would seem the part of wisdom to see to it that this instrument is made to supply books for the various agencies engaged in that work. To do this satisfactorily will require tolerance and liberal-mindedness on the part of library administrations in supplying books to meet all tastes and all needs."

All the machinery for this advance is at hand. It remains only for us to start the motor, supply the electricity, and occasionally stop work for a moment and see the results.

Obsolete Federal Documents

WHAT ARE OBSOLETE FEDERAL DOCUMENTS AND HOW SHOULD THEY BE DISPOSED OF?

BY MARY A. HARTWELL, CATALOGER IN OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT OF DOCUMENTS.

WHEN the president of the National Association of State Libraries asked me to write a paper on this subject, I wondered why these questions were being asked and if there were some special reasons why the questions were being asked just now. I even wondered why he asked me, for I have worked so long in the Office of the Superintendent of Documents that I found it difficult to visualize the problems of other libraries that render the question of obsolete Federal documents such a vital question at the present time. I could only theorize.

Referring to my Report on Designated Depository Libraries showing conditions on April 16, 1923, under the selective plan,* I find that of one hundred and twenty-three State libraries and libraries in other State institutions forty-one per cent chose to receive more than two thirds of the publications available, and fifty-nine per cent chose less than two thirds. Of the four hundred and eighteen libraries on the depository list in April, 1923, including State, university or college, public, society, and other libraries, however, only twenty-eight per cent chose to receive more than two thirds of the publications, and seventy-two per cent chose less than two thirds.

It is probable that many of the libraries that selected less than two thirds, being cramped for room, with too few assistants, increasing expenditures or decreasing incomes, are wondering if they could now do away with at least some of the sets which, under the new selective plan, the library is not keeping up. If so, what can the librarian do with documents not wanted? Can he dispose of them under existing law? Would anyone else like them? Who? How can they be exchanged? As I thought along these lines I realized more and more that the question of "obsolete" or "excess" public documents is just now a live question and that I was probably

asked because of my connection with the Office of the Superintendent of Documents.

WHAT ARE OBSOLETE FEDERAL DOCUMENTS?

To the archivist, the historian and the bibliophile, there is no such thing as an obsolete Federal document. To the library of the Superintendent of Documents Office there are no obsolete Federal documents. To many of the larger public, reference, university or college, and state libraries there should be no obsolete Federal documents. Yet, no doubt it is true that to many a busy man or woman a document seems obsolete the moment it is superseded by later information. Frequently this is not so. Take, for example, such documents as registers or rosters of various kinds—the "Congressional Directory" the "Official Register of the United States," or "Blue Book," the "Postal Guide," the Army and Navy registers, etc. Earlier editions of these, I would say, are never really obsolete, for the earlier ones often contain information not found in the very latest—information that is needed in reference work and in historical research.

In the departments of history and economics, nothing is obsolete. In geology, botany, and other natural sciences, tho there may be changes in terminology and mode of treatment, the fundamental facts do not change, and old reports prepared by careful and critical observers may be quite as valuable as recent ones. In other branches of science—such as radio communication—in which active research results in frequent and radical changes in methods of work, a library may be justified in considering obsolete some publications dealing with the purely technical phases of the subject. Great discrimination must be exercised to be sure that such publications have really been entirely superseded by later ones.

I feel very strongly that nothing should be considered obsolete if somebody else might make use of it. What to one library may be obsolete or excess—I am finding it difficult to draw a sharp line of distinction between these two terms—may be to a sister library a great desideratum.

In my quest for information as to current practices with respect to obsolete and excess Federal documents I was able during a recent brief vacation to visit a few libraries in Massachusetts, Connecticut, and New Jersey. The views of the librarians with whom I talked are as varied as are the types of libraries.

* Hartwell, Mary A. Report on designated depository libraries showing conditions on April 16, 1923, under the selective plan first authorized by Public act 171, 67th Congress. Read before the Public Documents Round Table of the American Library Association at Hot Springs, Ark., April 27, 1923. Published by the Superintendent of Documents, with the addition of List of designated depository libraries, revised to July 1, 1923, Washington, Government Printing Office, 1923, 29 pages, 2 maps. Printed in part in the LIBRARY JOURNAL for June 1, 1923, p. 499-502; July, p. 609-613.

The Connecticut State Library religiously keeps everything and will continue to keep everything. Here the latest copies of regulations are kept close at hand on the reference shelves, the earlier ones being retained and held accessible in the reserve stack. In reply to my question as to what constitutes an "obsolete" document Mr. Godard expressed it as his opinion that nothing is obsolete that can be made of use and the document that is obsolete to one library may be the very book that other libraries are seeking to obtain.

At the Yale University Library also the answer came, quick and decisive, not only from the librarian, but from the assistant librarian, the head of the reference department, and at least one other assistant: "There are no obsolete Federal documents."

Smith College Library, a non-depository, not only would not think of letting go any of its documents, but wants more and more, and wishes it might be a depository, which under the present law it cannot be, as there is no vacancy in that Congressional district.

The librarian of Trinity College Library in Hartford, a depository which now receives under the selective plan a collection from two thirds to one half complete, regrets that he did not select everything and adds "Indeed we have no sets we want to dispose of."

At another college library, also a depository, the Massachusetts Agricultural College Library at Amherst, the librarian has been forced to act to relieve the congestion. A new building is much needed and in the meantime the librarian must either dispose of many of his public documents or else store them in the attics of two college buildings at some distance where the books could never be of any use. But the librarian would by all means keep, with other necessary documents, all agricultural and educational publications.

The Amherst College Library, that is, the Converse Memorial Library now in its fine new building, appreciates to the fullest extent its privileges as a Government depository and makes extensive use of its Federal documents. Yet this library might be willing to dispose of its agricultural material because of the proximity of the collection of the Massachusetts Agricultural College. Why keep duplicate agricultural sets in the same town of about five thousand people? The Amherst College Library feels that it might spare also certain patent publications, coast pilots, lists of lights, buoy lists, lists of merchant vessels, etc. This calls to mind the fact that geographical position to a large extent determines what publications may be needed. This inland town may not need at all the very documents which are essential to com-

munities on the coast and on inland waterways.

While in Massachusetts I visited also two public libraries that are non-depositories, the Forbes in Northampton and the Springfield Public. At both places I was interested to find how they handled their documents; but the outstanding feature of both visits is the fact that both libraries protested against the laws that placed two depositories in Worcester and two in Amherst, but which make it impossible to create one either in Northampton or in Springfield, the former also a college town and the latter a city having a public library with approximately 300,000 volumes. This condition illustrates forcibly the need for revision of the laws governing the method of designating depositories of public documents. The Springfield Public Library, tho a non-depository, has a good collection of documents secured largely from the various departments at Washington. The librarian at Springfield is a strong advocate of keeping only a live, working collection of documents and frequently passes on his discards for use in smaller libraries.

The Atlantic City Public Library is a depository. Its collection, tho cramped for space and handicapped in other ways, is in fine shape and is made of practical use to its constituency. It has, however, been forced to dispose of some of its excess material.

Knowing what a remarkable and outstanding document department has been developed at the Chicago Public Library under the enthusiastic leadership of Mrs. Jessie Woodford Lyman, I wrote to her for her views on the obsolete document question. Her reply is much to the point and in many respects tallies with the views of other document experts. Her letter is long and of great interest. I can not quote it all, but I will quote several bits of it. Mrs. Lyman says: "An obsolete document depends upon the point of view of the librarian (mine changed with increasing experience). I have come to believe that *nothing is obsolete if it is ever called for, needed, or can be of use in the future*. . . . A document does not become obsolete when the material in it is issued in revised form, or appears in other form or compilation, for lawyers, especially, want and also demand the original form and frequently the later is not as full in detail. Obsolescence means one thing to one class of people and another to others. . . . Press releases are often counted obsolete, especially market reports, but no later reports give the same detailed information. A library may find it advisable not to keep all publications, but I doubt if these discarded ones should be called obsolete, for that places them in the wrong light, and sooner or later the library will be called upon to furnish some of

them and will have to refer to some other library. . . . In our circulating collection of documents we keep the latest revised edition of many bulletins, or the cumulated edition, but in the reference set all that we can safely keep on the shelves of all editions, and then at need these are loaned out for limited periods if desired, and under certain conditions. . . . Many of our worn out, missing, or mutilated volumes which most libraries call obsolete (many of them out of print) are replaced thru the kindness of libraries which send them to us as discards or as obsoletes or as unused. It is interesting to examine many of these volumes and find them fresh and clean, and know that ours have been worn out in use or coveted by users."

The views of librarians of the several types of libraries mentioned above show clearly that no hard and fast rule can be stated as to what constitutes an obsolete or excess Federal document. The same is probably true of state and municipal documents. Apparently each library must accept the responsibility of determining its own policy, subject to the laws of the land and the golden rule.

DISPOSAL OF OBSOLETE OR EXCESS DOCUMENTS

Depository libraries often ask the following questions: Is the library obliged to keep its Federal documents? May they be exchanged with other libraries? May they be sold as waste paper? May they be destroyed?

When the system of designating certain libraries to be depositories of public documents was inaugurated and for many years thereafter, the idea seems to have been that these libraries should receive and maintain complete collections of Government publications. For many libraries this has always been impracticable and the evident intent of Public Act 171, 67th Congress, approved March 20, 1922, in providing for selection of public documents by depositories was to permit libraries to choose what documents they would keep as a part of their collection and what documents they would reject. The present Superintendent of Documents, Mr. Tisdell, therefore sees no reason why a library may not now be permitted to eliminate from its shelves any publications no longer desired; but as the publications received by a depository are the property of the Government, they should not be disposed of without first consulting the Superintendent of Documents. If the Superintendent replies that he is unable to take them back, then—and not until then—is a depository free to dispose of its discards.

Non-depositories are not obliged to consult the Superintendent of Documents before disposing of their discards, but nevertheless it is desirable that they should.

For this "house-cleaning" process, I will cite

a few series which might safely be treated as obsolete or excess documents by some libraries. Message and Documents and Abridgment of Message and Documents. Both sets are virtually duplicates of reports appearing in other forms. Both sets have now been discontinued.

Daily Congressional Record and the biweekly edition of the *Record*. Both are superseded by the permanent bound edition which has different pagination.

Unbound Congressional documents and reports, if included in bound form in the serially numbered Congressional set.

Unbound parts of hearings of Congressional committees, if reprinted in complete form.

Slip laws and Session or Pamphlet laws, if you have the corresponding volumes of the Statutes at large.

Preliminary Census bulletins on population, agriculture, etc., in pamphlet form. Superseded by revised information in the bound volumes of Final reports and Abstracts and Compendiums of the Census. (The Chicago Public Library has discarded these advance Census bulletins, but notes inquiries for just these issues as being of particular interest to some patrons for certain pieces of work.)

Statistical abstract of United States. (Caution: Statistical tables differ from year to year. Keep if you can.)

Buoy lists and Light lists of the various light-house districts, if superseded by later issues.

Separates of annual reports, of Field operations of the Bureau of Soils, of Mineral resources of United States, of Interstate Commerce Commission decisions, Land decisions, Pension decisions, etc., etc., if you have the same matter in full in bound volumes.

Scientific papers and Technologic papers of the Bureau of Standards, if superseded by later revisions or new publications.

Farmers' bulletins and other publications, if clearly superseded by later revisions or new publications.

Instructions to applicants for civil service districts and certain other Civil Service Commission publications, if superseded by later editions.

The above list is merely suggestive.

CENTRAL CLEARING-HOUSE

The ideal solution of the obsolete and excess document problem is to have a central clearing house to which libraries may return their excess publications and from which they may draw the documents they need. The evident intent of the law of January 12, 1895, which established the Office of the Superintendent of Documents, was that his office should be such a central clearing-house. For several years it actually functioned

as such and it was from library returns that the remarkably complete set in the Public Documents Library of publications prior to 1895 was collected.

Some of you may remember when the "want slip" plan was in effect. Your "want slips" were filed, and if the corresponding documents ever came from some other library they were promptly shipped to you.

The Superintendent of Documents Office is still, to the limit of its present resources, a general clearing-house for Federal publications. But for lack of sorting and storage space and other necessary equipment, the Superintendent of Documents is unable under existing conditions to accede to every request for the return of publications. It depends somewhat on the nature of the publications to be returned and upon the amount of space available at the time the request is made. The office needs increased facilities for receiving and handling current and excess documents, in order to be able in future to accept all library returns.

Not until a large new building takes the place of two small old ones can the Superintendent of Documents be in a position to do for libraries all he wants to do. Our quarters are entirely inadequate. More than that our office personnel and our inadequate library are housed in buildings that are not safe from fire. Two fires about two years ago emphasized the necessity for immediate action of Congress. The seriousness of the situation has been fully stated by the Hon. George H. Carter, Public Printer, in his annual reports for 1922, p. 41-44, 1923, p. 62-64, and 1924, p. 4-5 and 72-73. Congress has not yet acted. The public buildings projects under discussion during the last Congress failed to pass and there is yet time to include us in public buildings legislation to be reintroduced before the 69th Congress.

In this building project for the Government Printing Office and the Office of the Superintendent of Documents the libraries all over the country have a very vital interest. For years co-operation with libraries has suffered from the lack of adequate facilities at the Office of the Superintendent of Documents; for years the Superintendent has been unable to carry out to the fullest extent the clearing-house idea or to advertise properly his wares as any business concern would do. As an interested party I have watched the rapid growth and development of our office and to me it is amazing how much has been accomplished under most adverse circumstances. What might not be done under favorable conditions? And I firmly believe that now is the time for the American Library Association, the National Association of State Libraries, and the American Association of Law

Librarians to add the weight of their influence to what the Public Printer is already doing to secure a new building and adequate and proper facilities for the Superintendent of Documents. Please don't stop with passing resolutions. Resolutions are excellent and much to the point. But resolutions should be followed up and pushed. Else other projects may take precedence. We need your aid.

The Newbery Medal

FOR the best children's book of the year has been awarded to Charles J. Finger for his "Tales from Silver Lands."

Miss Marguerite Wilkinson, chairman of the A. L. A. Children's Librarians Section in presenting the medal at the Seattle meeting of that group said:

"Our program this morning shows us that children become book-readers and book-lovers instead of merely book borrowers thru contact with 'real' books, instead of imitations in that shape. Whenever, therefore, a 'real' book for children of whatever age falls into our hands we salute it instinctively, rejoicing in the fine tale that is told, revelling in the rich imagination and savoring the perfect phrase. Finding such a book is a rare enough event to produce a genuine happiness that must be expressed somehow. To express this happiness and to recognize the most distinguished contribution to American literature for children, the Children's Librarians' Section, this year awards the John Newbery Medal to "Tales from Silver Lands." It is with enormous pleasure and great pride that I present this medal to you, Mr. Finger, the highest honor it is in our power to bestow."

Mr. Finger in accepting said: "Experience with all kinds of people, savage and civilized, leads me to believe that the chief thing to be achieved by the story teller is a sense of reality; without that it is not possible to interest boys and girls. A story teller who tries to talk either up or down to children will fail. The juvenile mind is active, alert, critical and everything set before it is subject to swift, critical analysis. Lacking sincerity the story will be rejected."

This is the fifth year of the award. The medal which is the gift of Frederic G. Melcher, editor of the *Publishers' Weekly* is awarded annually by a committee of the Children's Librarians Section.

The new year for the Washington County Free Library Training Class for work in county libraries, Hagerstown, Ind., opens October 1. As already announced in the *JOURNAL* the course of study is planned to fit for positions in small libraries and with especial reference to work in county libraries. Full particulars may be had from Miss Mary L. Titcomb, librarian.

The Seattle Conference

THE forty-seventh annual meeting of the American Library Association opened at Seattle, July 6, with a registered attendance of one thousand and forty-seven, nearly equalling last year's attendance of 1188 at the Saratoga Springs Conference and apparently refuting the worries of those who have claimed that the West is too far from the center of population for a big meeting. Distances are shorter than they were ten years ago.

Headquarters machinery functioned smoothly, comfortably and thoroly. Seattle members of the A.L.A. acting as a hospitality committee wearing small red artificial roses to identify them as such, were everywhere present to offer information and services. Provisions for meeting rooms and dining room facilities were excellent.

GENERAL SESSIONS

The emphasis of the conference was on library extension, adult education, school libraries, and education for librarianship. The first general session was held Monday evening, July 6, with President H. H. B. Meyer presiding. In the absence of Mayor E. J. Brown, Dr. Henry Suzzallo, president of the University

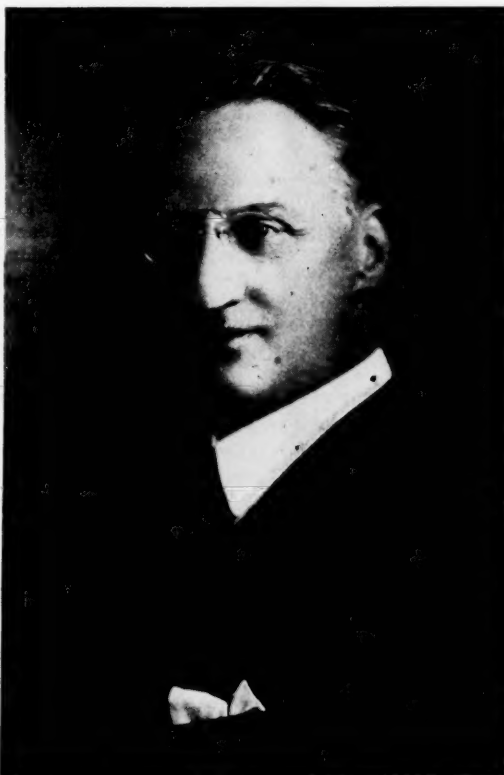
of Washington, gave the address of welcome "in behalf of the educational interests, because they are going to make more work for the librarians."

"Less teaching, more supervision of learners," he went on, "is the modern tendency of the school. The professor of the future will be simply a good reference librarian, and the university will consist of a lot of books, an earnest student and someone who knows them both and can bring them into thoughtful accord. . . . The education which commits suicide at the end of eight, twelve, or sixteen years isn't worth much. If it doesn't go on, it is a poor investment—and you are the people who can make it go on."

President Meyer then read his address, "Library Extension: a Movement or a Problem," which appears in full in the present number of the LIBRARY JOURNAL.

The second general session was held Tuesday evening.

The report of the Secretary was received as presented. The reports of the Treasurer, Finance Committee, and of the Trustees of the Endowment Fund were also received by unanimous vote. Reports of other committees were read by title only.



CHARLES F. D. BELDEN, 39TH PRESIDENT OF THE A. L. A.

THE CONSTITUTION

The Report of the Committee on Constitution and By-laws (including a minority report) was read by the chairman, Mr. Dudgeon, and was followed by a brief discussion. The report covered three points: a. Fees of affiliated societies; b. Term of office of the president; c. Corresponding members.

a. The report stated that the Executive Board, when the matter came before it for consideration December 30, 1921, "Voted, that the Executive Board's report to the Association, after examination of the facts in the case, be that it sees no reason to recommend a change

in the existing constitution."

b. Term of office of the president. The report states that the Committee, while recognizing the desirability of some provision under the operation of which the special knowledge of the affairs of the Association gained by the President should be made of continuing value to the Association, has not been able to suggest any amendment to the constitution which would accomplish effectively the results desired.

c. The following new section of the constitution, to be designated "Section 4-m," recommended by the Committee, was adopted unanimously: "Corresponding Members. Upon nomination of the Council, any person eminent

for his interest in library work, but who is, by reason of his residence in a country other than the United States or Canada, or for other reasons, unable to take active part in the affairs of the Association, may be elected by a majority vote at any meeting of the Association as a corresponding member thereof." (The above amendment to the Constitution must be voted a second time at the next annual meeting, before becoming effective.)

The following amendment to the By-Laws, to be designated as "Section 1-m," also recommended by the Committee, was unanimously adopted: "Corresponding members. Corresponding members shall be entitled to receive each year the A.L.A. Bulletin, including the Handbook and the Proceedings."

LIBRARY EXTENSION

The main address of the evening, "Library Agencies which will Meet the Needs of All the Population" was given by Mrs. Julia B. Babcock of Kern County Library, Bakersfield, Calif. Mrs. Babcock's comprehensive and picturesque exposition of county library activities and its possibilities given elsewhere in this number was received with much enthusiasm. Following Mrs. Babcock's talk, the subject of library extension was discussed from various angles.

"How the A.L.A. can Promote Library Extension thru Field Representatives" was presented by George B. Utley, who emphasized the need for such form of supervision to help unorganized states, from which A.L.A. Headquarters is constantly receiving calls for aid. Mr. Utley considers a field representative as important as any feature of library extension and expressed the hope that a way might be found for either the League of Library Commissions or the A.L.A. to supply such a need for linking up state with national library experience and activity.

"Extension thru Experimental and Demonstration Libraries" was urged by William J. Hamilton who stated that the township was too small a unit of organization for adequate library service, and the state too large a unit to meet local needs. The county is the only logical unit, and Mr. Hamilton called attention to the fact that the Rockefeller Foundation recognized this by carrying on its health work with the county as the basis for its activity. The Commonwealth Fund also puts on its Child Welfare demonstration, using the county as a unit of organization. He emphasized the necessity of hooking up demonstration activities with local conditions—co-operation, not interference—and that demonstrations should be given only where the locality is willing to go on with the work and the cost. He recommended placing

in charge of any demonstration work an outsider, free from the pull of local connections, and stressed the need of winning over at the outset the people who are not interested in books, specially the large taxpayers.

Extension thru state surveys was discussed by Mr. Wyer of Denver, who said in part:

"One cannot fail to observe that most striking development of recent years in educational circles—the survey. The development of approved practices in education, the formulation of standards for teaching and teachers, the modern requirements for school support and progress, form the basis for judging the schools of a community.

"I am convinced that many states would be benefitted by a library survey, conducted by a responsible outside organization, undertaking the work, however, only at the invitation of the state legislature, state library association, or some group of recognized authority. Such a survey should include a careful study of the entire library situation, the state-supported library activities, the code of the library laws, the library needs and facilities thruout the state, library support and taxation, school libraries, etc. Its report and recommendations, if given proper publicity, would go before the state with some authority, would enlist public interest and support, and would concentrate attention on the importance of library development to the state much more effectively than any statement or survey by local librarians. At least the state would have the challenge of a comprehensive constructive program for library development which would point the way to secure for all the people the privileges of the free public library."

Dr. Lewis of Philadelphia, M. H. Jackson, Mr. McKillop and Mr. Dudgeon of Milwaukee joined in a brief discussion of county libraries. Mr. Dudgeon does not believe the county library a practical solution for every rural community—some communities are too poor to support one. He considers the package library, traveling library or parcel post the best present methods of serving such communities.

Mr. Compton echoed Mr. Wyer's call for state surveys, instancing the fact that eighty-three out of one hundred and fourteen counties in Missouri have no tax supported libraries of any kind.

Miss McDonald of the State Normal School of Honolulu proclaimed Hawaii as the only state or territory giving service to all its counties. In its four counties there are four county libraries.

ADULT EDUCATION

At the third general session, held Wednesday evening, the room was filled to capacity, while

Mr. Jennings, chairman of the A.L.A. Commission on the Library and Adult Education, conducted a symposium on adult education.

"The adult education movement is based on the conviction that education is a life-long process, and that education and school are not synonymous," said Mr. Jennings. "Sixty-four per cent of our school children never get beyond the eighth grade. If democracy is to succeed we must have further education." As indicating the demand for adult education he cited two instances: One correspondence school in this country has during the last thirty-two years enrolled three million students. A survey in Milwaukee revealed the fact that forty thousand adults were enrolled in educational classes outside the public schools. Since books are the chief tools in education and since librarians are custodians of books and organizers of public book service they have important functions in this new educational movement. He then described how the A.L.A. is helping individual libraries to improve their service to serious adult students. The work is to be done thru readers' advisers, reading courses, the assistance of experts to aid individual students and also by the extension of book service to other agencies, engaged in adult education.

Examples of "personal service" were given by Miss Mulheron of Portland, who pointed out the libraries' tendency to measure their usefulness by the spectacular, the concrete, and the obvious types of service rather than by the less tangible but none the less worthy examples of service. "We have laid stress on education for making a living, rather than education for living," said Miss Mulheron, who cited, among examples of inconspicuous service, the story of James Stevens who a number of years ago was a common laborer in the logging camps of Oregon. While working in the sawmills he made use of the State Library and the Portland Library, later began to write and became the author of the book "Paul Bunyan." "You may use my name as much as you like," Mr. Stevens wrote to Miss Mulheron, "in regard to the help I had from Oregon libraries where—almost without knowing it—I was preparing myself to write. In the autobiographical novel I am now writing I show how often homeless wanderers go to libraries for the warmth of their bodies and the good of their souls. It was an excellent habit of mine always. I'd bet there are far more laboring men in your library at this moment than others. My opinion of American universities is pretty small, but for libraries I haven't enough praise."

"Reaching Boys and Girls out of School" was the title of a paper by Mr. Rush of Indianapolis who presented statistics illustrating the immense

field of opportunity for the library in pre-adult education. Ten million American children of school age do not attend school, and three million are out of high school to one million in high school. Mr. Rush said the problem is to so stimulate the interest of children, that those dropping out of school, may form permanent library reading habits. "Preventive measures before leaving school are desirable, rather than salvaging afterwards." . . . "Among the possible developments arising from impressive needs, which may be anticipated, are the following: Appointment of elementary school supervisors or reading skilled in inspirational book approach, publication of special text books designed to arouse latent reading impulses and based on age and group interests, wide use of school and home reading facilities, provision for test cases of individual schools concentrating with special instruction on those about to leave school, development of psychological studies adapting the new science of education in individual book instruction, encouragement of library groups for informal book discussion, organization of direct and indirect advisory library service, consideration of the rural problem with its tremendous population without library facilities and therefore 'facing great disadvantages, greater needs and still greater difficulty of learning the best use of books,' and systematic study of the kind of books required to elevate the appreciation level of young readers."

"Reading Courses—Alumni and Library" was the subject treated by Miss Farquhar of the Chicago Public Library, who pointed out that three Eastern colleges have recently begun a reading-course service for their alumni and that their experience is valuable to libraries. There are two types of library reading-courses, general and individual. The A.L.A. "Reading with a Purpose" series is the best of the general type, Miss Farquhar said, "since it meets every requirement of a good reading-course. . . . The great weakness of these courses is that they are general and for a readers' bureau assistant their value is not commensurate with the cost. The whole trend in education today is 'back to the individual.' Ten years ago individual reading-courses made by libraries were rare. Five or ten years from now the general ones will be rarer."

"From the experience of the universities and libraries making reading-courses, the idea as to what constitutes a good one has become somewhat definite. From our experience, two things are especially important. First, the course must not be too long. Second, the intellectual equipment, personality and experience of the bor-

rower must be kept constantly in mind when choosing and arranging the books.

"To make this individual reading service a success, other things are necessary. Each course must have behind it an interested well-educated individual, there must be a wide sponsorship for knowledge, and arrangements must be made for round-table or institute meetings of the readers."

"Workers' Education" was the subject of William Short, President of Washington State Federation of Labor, who described the function of the Workers' Education Bureau in New York City, the purpose of which is the presenting of educational possibilities to the workmen of America and bringing the wage earner into direct contact with the public library. The Bureau is now financed by the American Federation of Labor and has functioning under its direction one hundred and thirty-four committees and thirty-five labor colleges and summer schools. Mr. Short expressed an appreciation for the co-operation which the Bureau had received from the A.L.A. and urged that all libraries install the "Workers' Bookshelf" wherever possible.

Following the symposium, President Suzzallo delivered an address, in which he stressed the necessity of appreciating the three methods of learning.

In the first way we stumble upon something in life and things happen—an intense experience, but restricted; vital, but narrow. The second way is the vicarious learning thru social conversation or mental contacts. This is restricted to people of your own time, and to your social position. The third way is learning thru books—the broadest of all and also the most difficult. He then urged that more emphasis be placed on the recreative side of reading, reading for enjoyment. "Your greatest problem will be primarily on the emotional side of psychology rather than on the intellectual side—the problem of creating a desire and lasting interest to read."

"School is merely a spring board in the early stages of education. The real education is in the hands of the librarians."

SCHOOL LIBRARY SERVICE

The theme of the fourth session was school library service.

"Educational Measurements and What They Mean to Libraries" was the title of an address by Curtis T. Williams of the University of Washington, who pointed out the possible significance of measurements for the library, summarizing them as follows: In the first place intelligence tests throw light on personnel problems in the staff.

Secondly, there is distinct relationship between intelligence of children and amount and quality of material read. In respect to educational measurements it is highly probable that reading done for recreation is proportional in quality and amount to reading ability as measured by reading tests. Finally, critical judgment of a high nature is possessed by relatively few as measured on a scale for the judging of poetry.

"Teaching Reading: why and how" was the subject of an illustrated lecture by Worth McClure, assistant to the Seattle Superintendent of Schools, who said in part: "In the New England Primer days, children attended school that they might learn to read. Changing social conditions and modern scientific teaching have turned about the phraseology of this compelling motive, and the child of today *reads to learn*. The function of the school in our rapidly developing civilization is not only to equip the individual with the ability to read, and to read with discrimination, but also to provide permanent interests in reading so that his education may round itself out symmetrically in maturer years. The entrance of the library into the public schools, first into the high schools and later into the elementary grades, has marked a new era of individual study and research. Teachers are realizing that the library-trained pupil has a kind of intellectual independence in keeping not only with the best American traditions but with the future responsibilities of citizenship." Mr. McClure used slides to illustrate modern methods of teaching reading.

"School Libraries, a Look Ahead," the last topic on the program, was presented by Jasmine Britton, City School Library, Los Angeles, who pointed out that public libraries contribute to schools a specialized knowledge in books; and that books are needed to meet the individual interests and ability, as an aid in capturing the child's interest. The next development in library progress will be the result of demands from the elementary schools, and trained librarians will be found in school systems to aid in book selection and distribution, research work in the superintendent's office, educational experiments, special help to schools remote from libraries, and university extension courses on children's literature for teachers.

CHINESE LIBRARIES

An illustrated talk on Chinese libraries was given Thursday evening by Dr. A. E. Bostwick, who has just returned from China, where, by invitation of the Chinese National Association for the Advancement of Education, he made a survey of the library situation. He had much

praise for various phases of Chinese civilization, claiming that their chief fault is in their inability to get together on anything. "Lack of team work is responsible for all China's ills." He instanced this by the fact that Chinese scholars have evolved no less than twenty systems of alphabetizing the language, "each one excellent and practicable." But none has been generally accepted. He described the cordial reception by the Chinese everywhere and their eagerness to accept American advice and help in the development of libraries.

EXECUTIVE BOARD

The Executive Board was not able to transact any business, due to lack of a quorum.

A.L.A. COUNCIL

The first session of the Council was held Tuesday morning at the Olympic, with President Meyer in the chair.

New Chapters.

Applications for affiliations with the Association were received from the library associations of South Carolina and Pennsylvania. Recommendation that they be affiliated as chapters of the A.L.A. was adopted unanimously.

Business Libraries Section Proposed.

A petition signed by twenty-five members of a business library group of the A.L.A. asking to become affiliated with the A.L.A. as a Business Library Section, was received. By unanimous vote, the President was authorized to appoint a committee to investigate and report back to the Council. The President appointed the following committee: Mr. Utley, chairman, Mr. Handy (president of Special Libraries Association), Mr. Hyde, Miss Krause, and Miss Loeber. The President pointed out that two members of the committee were members of the petitioning group; two, non-members of this group; and the chairman, a past president of the A.L.A.

Education for Librarianship.

Mr. Strohm, chairman of the Board of Education for Librarianship, presented the Minimum Standards for Library Schools, as the first unit of a correlated system of education for librarianship. "If you want the best, you have to pay for it," said Mr. Strohm. "You can not get education cheaply. The great problem is how to get the best librarians. This is more important than books, library buildings, library boards, and very often, chief librarians." He also stressed the need of great personalities in libraries and emphasized the need of more of the higher liberal education for librarians. The Board recommended acceptance of its report and adoption of the Minimum Standards (see p. 578-9). The report was then read by sec-

tions, the chief point of discussion being the requirement of two months' experience for admission to the junior undergraduate library school. While such experience was considered desirable by nearly all, the advisability of making it a rigid requirement was questioned on the ground that it would occasionally result in the elimination of an exceptional student who made up his mind to enter library school too late to have fulfilled this requirement. In order to provide for such emergency, Dr. Andrews moved to amend the footnote on page 13 of the Report to read, "The school should reserve the right to refuse to admit an applicant who meets the first two requirements (under Requirements for Admission) but who fails in the third; and the right to admit an applicant who does not meet the first two requirements but who satisfies the faculty that he can carry the work without a lowering of the standards of instruction. In general an applicant over thirty-five years of age should not be encouraged to enter school."

The recommendation of the Board, as thus amended, was unanimously adopted.

Among those taking part in the discussion were: Mr. W. E. Henry, Dr. Andrews, Dr. Bostwick, Mr. Severance, Miss Cooper, Miss Bogle, Mr. Hamilton, Mr. Wright, Miss Rathbone, Mr. Mitchell, Miss Herbert, Miss Tyler, Miss Ahern, Miss Reese, Miss McCardle, Mrs. Brewitt, Miss S. T. Smith, Mr. A. L. Bailey, Mr. Ranck, Mr. E. A. Henry, Miss Howe and Mr. Strohm.

Library Book Post.

The second Council meeting was held on Friday, President Meyer in the chair. Mr. Dudgeon introduced a resolution, that the project for a library book post—a cheap rate of postage on books sent between libraries and their subscribers—be made a major legislative activity of the A. L. A., and that a pamphlet be prepared on the case for the library book post, and that it be widely distributed. Adopted.

Fiftieth Anniversary.

Mr. Utley spoke briefly on Fiftieth Anniversary plans, stating that the probable meeting place for the 1926 conference would be Atlantic City, during the first week of October, 1926, with a one or two day pilgrimage to Philadelphia. The fall date was chosen to coincide with the birthday of the A. L. A., October 4, 1876. He called attention to the three definite features of the 1926 conference: The anniversary nature of the meeting and the hope of having foreign colleagues present; the appearance of certain publications, including the 1926 A. L. A. Catalog, subsidized by the Carnegie Corporation, the Survey Report, a history of progress of last fifty years, prepared by Asa Wynkoop; and exhibits, which the Committee hoped to finance

with aid of libraries thruout the country. Dr. Bostwick appealed for a single meeting place—Philadelphia—in preference to shuttlecocking between Atlantic City and Philadelphia.

Personnel Survey.

Dr. Bostwick discussed briefly the Personnel Questionnaire of the Committee on the Classification of Library Personnel, pointing out that it is an integral part of the general survey. He recommended that the Report made to the Committee on the Classification of Library Personnel (mimeographed in two sections) be considered as a report of progress and that the Committee be continued.

Fred Telford, Bureau of Public Personnel Administration of the Institute for Government Research and Chief of the Technical Staff of the Committee, then spoke on the classification of library personnel. High intelligence and adequate educational and library school training among the employees of large public libraries, lack of adequate training among the employees of small public libraries, low salary scales in both large and small public libraries, and need for the adoption and observance of scientific plans of classifying library positions and compensating employees were among the points stressed by Mr. Telford. He stated that the Committee's report was made following an intensive study of two years. Thru questionnaires it has gathered detailed information with regard to six thousand positions in some one hundred and forty libraries of various sizes and types in all parts of the country, and bases its report and recommendations upon the facts disclosed by these questionnaires. The Committee has itself made a classification or job analysis of library positions and conducted abstract intelligence tests with a large number of librarians. Mr. Telford emphasized the need of higher salaries for library workers and especially for those in the middle ranks or supervisory positions.

It was voted unanimously that the Report of the Committee be accepted as a report of progress and the Committee be continued.

At this moment, Dr. Bostwick was presented with a bouquet, but refused to divulge the source.

Library Revenues.

Mr. Ranck gave the report of the Committee on Library Revenues (full report printed), and asked for an expression of opinion from the Council concerning the advisability of the Association's recommending to the American people the use of trust funds for library purposes. Dr. Andrews moved that that portion of the Committee's report which referred to the desirability of legislation in regard to trust funds be re-

ferred to the Committee on Library Legislation. The motion was carried.

Copyright.

Mr. Wright read a letter from Dr. Raney, chairman of the Committee on Bookbuying, concerning a threatened amendment to the Copyright Bill by some international publishers in New York, which would prevent librarians from importing books reprinted in America. Dr. Raney urged that all librarians write a protest against such threatened action, to the following: Hon. Florian Lampert of Wisconsin; Hon. Randolph Perkins of New Jersey; Hon. Frank R. Reid of Illinois; Hon. Sol Bloom of New York; and Hon. Fritz G. Lanham of Texas. Mr. Ranck also urged the importance of having library boards register a protest. It was unanimously voted that the Council express its approval and appreciation of the work Dr. Raney and his Committee have done in the interest of the Copyright Bill.

Book Production.

Miss Tyler urged the appointment of a committee on book production, especially from the standpoint of improving the quality of paper used in books. It was voted "That the Council request the Executive Board to appoint a standing committee of three on book production whose duty shall be to promote the use of better paper and typography for books of permanent importance, the committee to co-operate with the Bookbinding Committee, other committees and other organizations, and to report to the Council annually."

D. C. Classification.

Dr. Andrews brought up the matter of printing Decimal Classification numbers on Library of Congress cards. The Council voted to refer this to the Committee on Committees.

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED.

At the fourth general session, held on Friday evening, President Meyer presiding, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Appreciation and Thanks.

That the Association express its warm appreciation to the many libraries, organizations, and individuals of the Pacific Northwest who have done much to make its forty-seventh conference notably successful . . . especially to the Board and Staff of the Seattle Public Library and to the Staff of the University of Washington Library for hospitality displayed in providing local information and in arranging for many nearby trips. . . .

That the Association is deeply grateful to the librarians of the West, both in the United States and Canada, for their cordial invitations to

visit their libraries, and that it especially express its thanks to the librarians of Minneapolis and St. Paul for entertainment supplied to the official party en route to the conference.

The Association records its gratitude to organizations and individuals who have provided funds for Association activities.

The Association views with great satisfaction the continued interest of the Carnegie Corporation of New York in the welfare of American libraries and records its grateful appreciation of generous gifts to the American Library Association during the past year. The gift also from the Carnegie Corporation to the League of Library Commissions of \$50,000 for demonstration work in one or more states is looked upon by the Association as a step of the greatest importance. The Association hopes and intends to merit the confidence of the Carnegie Corporation.

The efforts of Miss Mary Elizabeth Wood, the invitation of the Chinese National Association for the Advancement of Education, and the fund supplied by a special committee have enabled the Association to send an official delegate to China for the promotion of libraries in that country, and the Association records its thanks to Miss Wood and to Mrs. Frederic Cunningham, chairman, and to the committee, for the rare opportunity thus granted to the Association to extend its influence internationally.

Library Book Post

That the Association again endorse legislation for a library book post and record its appreciation of the long, untiring efforts of Mr. Alfred A. Spencer in furthering this movement. The Association heartily approves the intention of the Committee on Federal and State Relations to bring this matter to a hearing when the new Congress convenes, and urges all members of the A. L. A. to co-operate with this Committee.

That the appreciation of the Association be expressed to the Bureau of Public Personnel Administration of Washington and to Mr. Fred Telford for the extensive study which has been made of library personnel.

Mr. Nelson's Seventy Years' Service

Whereas, the American Library Association has learned that Charles Alexander Nelson, a member of the Association since 1877, secretary of its Catskill Conference of 1888, recorder of its Cleveland Conference of 1896, and active in various of its other offices and posts, has just attained his eighty-sixth birthday and is still engaged in active librarianship, seventy years after he began by aiding in founding a library, purchasing its books, and preparing its catalog, in March, 1855,

Therefore be it resolved, that we the officers

and members of the Association . . . take cognizance with great pleasure of this unusual event in American librarianship. We send on our behalf and in behalf of all our members heartfelt felicitations to Mr. Nelson for this fine record in our profession, of which he is a distinguished exemplar and in which he has added lustre to its ideals. We wish him health to continue in his work, and an abundant joy in well doing.

Deceased Members.

That this Association express thru its records its deep appreciation of the long and faithful services of William R. Eastman, of Edwin Wiley and Sherman Williams and of other members who have died in the past year.

Mr. Chivers' Retirement.

The retirement of Mr. Cedric Chivers from active work in America is worthy of record in the minutes of the Association. Therefore, be it resolved: That the Association recognizes and appreciates the distinct and valuable contribution which Mr. Chivers has made to the economics of public libraries. The many years he devoted to the study of the strength of book-making materials and of the wear of the bindings of books in active use, and unquestionably his generous and unselfish publication for the benefit of others of the results of his study and experiments, have advanced the methods of book-binding in this country to the gain of all public libraries. His presence here and his genuine interest have resulted in raising the standard of book-binding among both librarians and bookbinders.

OFFICERS

Officers elected are: President, Charles F. D. Belden; first vice-president, Mrs. Elizabeth Claypool Earl; treasurer, Edward D. Tweedell; trustee of Endowment Fund, George Woodruff; members of the Executive Board, Franklin F. Hopper and Edith Tobitt; Members of the Council, Theresa Hitchler; Clara W. Hunt; Andrew Keogh; Samuel H. Ranck and Joseph L. Wheeler.

SOCIAL FEATURES

The widespread hospitality of the people of Seattle, staffs of the Seattle Public Library and the University of Washington libraries and the Pacific Northwest Library Association, was everywhere in evidence.

From the opening reception and dance in the Olympic Ball Room on Monday evening to the final whistle, there were no dull moments, not excepting "free periods." On Tuesday afternoon cars were provided by Seattle people thru arrangement by the Public Library staff to carry the entire flock of 1047 visitors on a scenic drive about the city, including a visit to the

beautiful Country Club grounds, and the residential district where tea was served. Stops were made at the Queen Anne, Fremont, University, and Green Lake branches of the Library. On Thursday a buffet luncheon was served by the Pacific Northwest Library Association on the University of Washington campus, followed by exhibit dancing—not by librarians—in the Sylvan Theater, and a boat trip over Lake Union, Lake Washington Canal, thru the Government Locks and Puget Sound. On Friday the Crystal Pool was “drained and refilled for use of librarians only.” Numerous dinners and breakfast parties adorned the week’s schedule, including those of the Overseas A.L.A. War Service group, Trustees Sections, Pacific Northwest Library Associations, Rotary Club, Kiwanis, Lions and the following library school alumni associations: Riverside, Wisconsin, Western Reserve, New York State, Pittsburgh, New York Public Library, Ohio, Pratt, Illinois, Simmons, Washington, Drexel, Syracuse, University of California, Iowa, Los Angeles Public Library. The total attendance at library school dinners was approximately 451, New York State leading with 84 and Illinois a close second with 82.

EXHIBITS

The book autos from the Library Association, Portland (Ore.) and Everett (Washington) Public Library were on exhibit for the County Libraries Round Table. All other exhibits professional and commercial were on the mezzanine floor in the Olympic Hotel, in charge of Mr. Fontaine. In addition to the “commercial” displays of library equipment, supplies, furniture, binding, pictures, encyclopedias and books in general, there were professional exhibits of A.L.A. publications, children’s books, library posters, exhibits on hospital libraries, county libraries, package libraries, Canadian Federal documents, and exhibits prepared by the Catalog Section and the Committee on Reprints and Inexpensive Editions.

RADIO TALKS

Thru the courtesy of the Seattle *Post Intelligencer*, Station KJR, the following radio talks were given during the week: the “Children’s Story Hour” by Alice I. Hazeltine; “Adult Education” by Matthew S. Dudgeon; “Training for Librarianship” by Sarah C. N. Bogle; “Library Extension” by Milton J. Ferguson, and “Libraries in China” by Arthur E. Bostwick.

Exchanges with the Bibliothèque Nationale

DR. W. DAWSON JOHNSTON, librarian of the American Library in Paris, sends the following communication to the A. L. A.

“I have just received a memorandum from the Bibliothèque Nationale indicating that they are ready to exchange books with American libraries. This memorandum reads.

It is difficult for him (M. de la Roncière) to specify which are the volumes which he can exchange, having been given their number as 11 kilometres of duplicates, of which six or seven serve for provincial loans. There would be in particular some old editions of the 17th and 18th centuries, theological works, the *Journal des économistes* and the *Journal asiatique* which are of great value, as well as an Arabic Gospel illustrated and printed in Rome in 1590. What would interest the Bibliothèque Nationale would be, for example, valuable works on ethnography, linguistics, history, art, and scientific dictionaries (but not works of vulgarization).

“Is this a matter which you could refer to some committee for consideration? I should like to do all I can to facilitate the rapid shipment of these books to the proper libraries in the United States, with the understanding that an adequate return for them either in money or books be received.”

Notes on the German Book Exhibit

“Notes on the German Book Exhibit, Chicago, 1925, with Impressions and Interviews set down by Theodore Wesley Koch,” illustrated and privately printed, may be obtained from the author, Northwestern University, Illinois, for the cost of manufacture, \$1. The aim of this attractive brochure, says Dr. Koch in his preface, is “to give a brief account of the many-sided exhibition and to provide something which might be presented to the exhibitors as a souvenir of their visit, an indication of the interest felt in this country in the re-establishment of intellectual contacts and co-operation between Germany and America.” The contents appear in summary in the LIBRARY JOURNAL for February 1.

Motion Pictures Based on Literature

SELECTED BY THE NATIONAL BOARD OF REVIEW

ARE PARENTS PEOPLE? Famous Players-Lasky. 7 reels. Stars: Adolphe Menjou, Florence Vidor, Betty Bronson. Lita proves that hers are; from the story by Alice Duer Miller (Dodd).

CYRANO DE BERGERAC. 723 Seventh Ave., New York: Unity Films. 9 reels. Star: Pierre Magnier. Faithful rendering in color of the play by Edmond Rostand.

DRUSILLA WITH A MILLION. F.B.O. 7 reels. Stars: Mary Carr and Kenneth Harlan. Inmate of old ladies’ home is left a million; from the novel by Elizabeth Cooper (Burt).

I’LL SHOW YOU THE TOWN. Universal. 8 reels. Star: Reginald Denny. Young Professor Deupree tries to show the town to three women simultaneously; from the novel by Elmer Davis (McBride).

IN THE NAME OF LOVE. Famous Players-Lasky. 6 reels. Stars: Ricardo Cortez and others. Modernized version of Bulwer-Lytton’s play “A Lady of Lyons.”

LITTLE FRENCH GIRL, THE. Famous Players-Lasky. 6 reels. Stars: Alice Joyce, Mary Brian, Neil Hamilton. Contrasted French and English ideas and conventions; from the novel by Anne Douglas Sedgwick (Houghton).

The S. L. A. Sixteenth Convention

THE sixteenth annual convention of the Special Libraries Association was held at Swampscott, June 24 to 26, in conjunction with the convention of the library associations of New England. The registration of 225 is one of the largest on record, and delegates were present from points as far distant as Atlanta, Milwaukee and Canada. Mr. Belden, of the Boston Public Library, who gave the address of welcome, said that the special library had a field of its own in the dissemination of knowledge, but bespoke its co-operation with the public library for the co-ordination of library facilities. Miss Rankin, of New York, in responding, called attention to the nomination of Mr. Belden as President of the A. L. A., which augured well for the friendly relations between the two associations during the coming year.

GENERAL SESSIONS

President D. N. Handy, in his presidential address, printed in full in this number, urged harmony and close co-operation with the A. L. A., but opposed any suggestion for merging with it.

Reports of the secretary and treasurer showed the association to be in excellent condition. All the year's reports seemed to bear a new significance against the background of uncertainty and almost timidity with which the year began at Saratoga Springs.

One session was a dinner meeting and a program of music by Miss Handy and other artists supplemented the messages brought to the conference by three executives on the subject "Revolution thru Research." Mr. Hyde presided with his usual facility. Mr. Dowse, of the Dennison Manufacturing Company, in giving his views of what the library should do for the business man, said that the executive is apt to think that he has "arrived" and is in need of no further education; the librarian must make him realize that he does need it. The librarian will not, however, flood his desk with books and pamphlets, the size and thickness of which would breed distaste: the substitution of synopses of books will make him hunger for more.

Professor F. T. Dellenbaugh, of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, told of the research being done there, reports on which cannot be published for general use for want of funds. The librarian's business is to link the engineer with data that has gone before him and this can be done by means of abstracts.

Mr. Dana, general manager of the Boston Elevated Railway, said that the executive can never afford to stop growing; he must always

make decisions—and they are bigger and more frequent nowadays. Rapid changes are occurring and in one lifetime an executive must absorb entire new systems.

Mr. O'Brien, editor of the *Boston Herald*, spoke on use and abuse of the reference library, basing his amusing remarks chiefly upon his experiences with the newspaper organ. He decried the "clipping bureau" style of writing, and said the writer should use assimilated information and not transcribe from clippings.

Mr. Coulson, of the London office of the Library Bureau, brought some interesting sidelights on business life and special libraries in England, where there is a general suspicion of a college man who has "strayed into" business. In Oxford a famous library some four hundred years old has just acquired a typewriter, and it may eventually also have a telephone. Conventions are not common in Great Britain, and the special library convention held there last fall was notable. The discussions were very profitable and the organization has now been made permanent with a paid secretary.

ASSOCIATION ACTIVITIES

The activities of the Association are organized along three distinct lines: thru the local associations in important cities; thru national groups concerned with one subject or field such as technology; and thru committees formed to deal with special topics such as the directory.

Local groups of the Association have been formed in six cities, and while entirely independent of each other in management their programs bear considerable resemblance. Usually the first move is to compile a directory of the local special libraries and the next to search out sources of information and special collections and make them available for mutual benefit. For this purpose a union list of periodicals is usually compiled and this may be supplemented by an index to the book and pamphlet contents of the libraries, classified by major subjects, as in the case of the New York association. An employment exchange is a need that the local groups are trying to meet and Mr. Stebbins, who has charge of the Boston registration work, suggests the formation of a central, national employment bureau. He referred to considerable demand for the "stenographer-librarian." Announcement of the formation of the newest local group in Chicago thru the efforts of Mrs. P. S. Cafferata was enthusiastically received. Membership in the Groups varies widely from the three hundred and thirty-three in New York, and one hundred and twenty-five in Boston, to eight in Chicago.

GROUP MEETINGS

Five groups reported to the Convention and held separate sessions, namely, Advertising-Commercial-Industrial, Financial, Technology, Insurance, and Newspaper.

The *Advertising-Commercial-Industrial* Group is working on a plan to have a central clearing-house for ideas and experience during the year between conventions, at which material could be collected for that purpose. Three meetings of this Group were held, under the chairmanship of Mr. Mooney, librarian of the Dennison Manufacturing Company.

The *Financial Group* is still getting results from its publicity thru the Exhibit last year at the Chicago convention of the American Bankers Association. Miss Reynolds, of the First Wisconsin National Bank of Milwaukee, chairman of the Group, reported one hundred letters received from all parts of the country in regard to the Exhibit and that the latest inquiry came from India. A second exhibit is being planned for the A. B. A. convention this year at Atlantic City, and an exhibit committee of New York and Philadelphia librarians was appointed, headed by Gudrun Moe, of the Bankers Trust Company, New York.

A constitution for the Group was presented and accepted and now awaits the action of the Executive Board.

The *Federal Reserve Group*, with seven representatives present, held a special meeting at the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston prior to the opening of the Conference, Miss Claflin of the Cleveland bank being chairman.

The *Technology Group* decided to try out the committee mode of organization. One of these committees, under the chairmanship of Miss Mae Taylor, compiled a bibliography on illuminating engineering. In the interest of publicity for special library work and the encouragement of co-operation with related trade bodies, this Group is preparing an exhibit at the convention of the American Gas Association at Atlantic City this fall. Mr. Cady, of the Nela Research Laboratory in Cleveland, presided at the meetings of the Group and also submitted a paper on methods of publicity for special librarians. The Rubber Committee under the leadership of Miss Edith Shearer, of the Western Union Telegraph Co., New York, donated a classification and also a bibliography on rubber.

Mr. Jacob, of the General Electric Company, at Schenectady, told of fifteen ways by which the library could gain publicity among its company executives, illustrating his address with pictures of his own library exhibit, of sections of his library and of scenes at the summer camp of the company, where he gained considerable personal publicity.

The *Insurance Group* experienced difficulty in discovering all insurance libraries, and the Chairman, Miss Florence Bradley, of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, New York, suggested that where libraries do not exist as such, library work is probably being done by statistical departments or information bureaus. Mr. Niles, of the Life Insurance Sales Research Bureau, spoke of the work of that Bureau in gathering monthly statistics of life assurance sales from forty-one companies, which are then distributed abroad as widely as possible for the common good. He suggested that trade associations might co-operate with libraries by filling in gaps in printed material. Mr. Alexander Mack, of the *Weekly Underwriter*, suggested that closer indexing of magazines for specific insurance topics should be done by the printed periodical indexes.

Newspaper Group members were present from cities extending from Boston to Baltimore and Milwaukee, and Mr. Kwapil, of the Philadelphia Public Ledger, presided. On filing systems for newspaper clipping, speakers were Mr. Wells, of the *New York World*, Miss Petersen, of the King Features Syndicate, New York, and Mrs. Alice N. Landberg, of the *Portland (Me.) Express*. In a symposium upon the newspaper index, Miss Welland, of the *New York Times*, Miss Pine, of the *Springfield Union*, and Wilbur F. Coyle, of the *Baltimore Sun*, took part. Mr. Alcott, librarian, of the *Boston Globe*, was elected Chairman for the coming year.

COMMITTEES

Mr. Brigham, editor of *Special Libraries*, reported upon his year's experience. Material available for publication is plentiful and every month several galleys are left over. The magazine's advertising has had special attention and has been remarkably built up. The co-operation of all members in building up the revenues from that source is needed.

The Survey committee, of which Mr. Johnstone, of the Bureau of Railway Economics was chairman, reported that the problem of the future status of the S. L. A. had resolved itself during the year. The unrest in the Association has apparently entirely subsided and as the future development of the Association is now assured the Committee begged to be discharged.

Resolutions of cordial appreciation and thanks were passed for the many courtesies which had contributed to the delight of the convention: to the New England library associations, and especially the Massachusetts Library Club, to the Boston S. L. A. committee of management, and to speakers. Fraternal greetings were sent to the world parent library association—the A. L. A.—and full co-operation in all affairs offered.

All-New England Library Conference

AS was confidently expected, the All-New England Library Conference at the New Ocean House, Swampscott, Mass., June 22-27, proved one of the most successful and enjoyable library meetings ever held in the East. Over five hundred librarians representing the six New England states and other states as well, were present and those attending the Special Libraries Association which held its annual convention at the same time brought the total number to over eight hundred. Each state association made itself responsible for one or more sessions and there were in addition several group meetings.

After dinner on Monday evening, President Redstone, of the Massachusetts Library Club, introduced the Hon. Frederick W. Cook, Secretary of the Commonwealth, who welcomed the librarians to the Bay State. Mr. Wellman, of Springfield, responded. Following, the Hon. Albert J. Beveridge, ex-senator and biographer of John Marshall, spoke on "The Making of a Book." In an age of co-operation, organization and system the making of a book remains an affair still personal, which cannot be delegated to others. An immense amount of labor is involved in conscientious biography, beginning with the painstaking accumulation of facts. Usually a book is rewritten eight times before the final manuscript is ready for the printer and, in criticism by experts, revision, editing and correction of proof, there may be thirty processes. He closed by emphasizing the important function of libraries in collecting historical and biographical source material and paid a personal tribute to the valuable assistance given him by many libraries.

STATE ASSOCIATION PROGRAMS.

At the Tuesday morning session, in charge of the Vermont Library Association, with Miss Florence L. Pratt presiding, Mrs. H. S. Moses, of Bennington, Vt., gave a vision in "A Library Prophecy," of what may be expected in the way of library agencies and facilities twenty years hence, when all-New England Air Service would reach every village and hamlet from coast to mountains. Miss Mildred Cook, secretary of the State Public Library Department at Montpelier, told some of her experiences while travelling thru the state in the book wagon visiting the 230 libraries. She also told of an interesting experiment in co-operative book-buying which three Vermont towns are trying under supervision of her department. Each library makes its own purchases, duplication being avoided by preliminary inspection of all the lists, and each library has three months' use of

the books in rotation. Miss Agnes Norton, of Ludlow, in "The Human Side of a Librarian's Life," spoke of the humorous incidents, the pathetic side and the real serious problems that every true librarian meets every day. Professor A. W. Peach, of Norwich University, in his talk on "Cross Currents in Contemporary Literature," spoke of the passing of the Puritan tradition in literature, this being an age of affirmation, not negation, an age challenging conventions and traditions, concerned with the interpretation of facts, with human motives and reaction to environment. Librarians should be familiar with the exponents of the new literature, "to be at least one jump ahead of the public and two jumps ahead of the trustees." A new sectional literature is growing up in various parts of the country, an example of which is Ellen Glasgow's "Barren Ground," a superb treatment of the problems of the New South.

The Tuesday evening session was in charge of the Massachusetts Library Club and the speaker was Mr. MacGregor Jenkins, of the Atlantic Monthly Press. In a talk well spiced with humor Mr. Jenkins compared librarians to dietitians who select suitable literary menus from the great variety of mental foods which the publishers as cooks are constantly preparing. He severely satirized literary affectation and pose and called for a saner attitude toward literature as one of the greatest needs of our generation. In America we have life of course, probably too much liberty, but we fail miserably in the pursuit of happiness. Literature is a vital force for national happiness and every librarian and book lover should be incessantly broadcasting to every man, woman and child in America the friendliness of books and the joy and wisdom to be found in good literature.

Connecticut supplied the program for Wednesday morning, the first speaker being Mr. Hamilton Holt who gave an able account of the process of "Editing a Magazine." Illuminating it by several good stories, he presented a careful picture of editors in their relations with authors, advertisers and the circulation departments of their magazines, his views being based upon his own experience as editor of the *Independent*. Admitting certain faults and failure, Mr. Holt's conclusion is that magazines are on the whole better than they used to be and that the future promises still further development in the interest and value of periodical literature. Following Mr. Holt's paper, Mrs. Marguerite Wilkinson talked informally and understandingly of "Women Who are Poets." After

a heartfelt tribute to Amy Lowell, the speaker told of the personality and writings of Muna Lee, Aline Kilmer, Sara Teasdale and Sarah N. Cleghorn, reciting characteristic selections from each poet. Upon urgent request, Mrs. Wilkinson recited a few of her own shorter poems.

The Wednesday afternoon session was in charge of the New Hampshire Library Association and the speakers were Professor Ambrose White Vernon, of Dartmouth College, and Mr. J. Randolph Coolidge, of Boston and Squam Lake, N. H. Professor Vernon's subject was the current interest in biography, and he spoke of the great biographers of our day, such as Thayer, Bradford and Strachey, and how the scientific methods employed by these have brought us face to face with realities, portraying the weakness of their subjects as well as the virtues. He gave an outline of the methods in use in his own classes in the study of comparative biography. Mr. Coolidge in treating the subject "Building the Small Library for Beauty and Convenience," spoke as an architect and a library trustee. Getting away from the idea that a library must look like a Greek temple, beauty of setting is fully as important as beauty of design, and the library should suit the scene and the period. He recommended wood as the least expensive material and the most easily altered, tho, if fireproof construction is demanded, concrete blocks will give this at a minimum cost. Avoid domes and skylights, have high windows and an open fireplace with comfortable chairs and a settle. Only a trained architect should design the building as he alone can get good proportions.

The Rhode Island Library Association was responsible for one of the most enjoyable sessions of the whole program, that of Wednesday evening. For at their behest "all the way from Hingham to the shores of Swampscott" came Dallas Lore Sharp to talk about John Burroughs and to tell how "Burroughs did not grow old gracefully but finished on the race track strong." Whatever the place John Burroughs will hold in American letters, he must be reckoned with, and he left as large a volume of writings as any American, at the time of his death having a book in the press and two more in manuscript. Professor Sharp told of John Burroughs' visit to Hingham and his own visits to Woodchuck Lodge, of watching the skinning of woodchuck for dinner while the conversation fairly flew and scintillated. He spoke of the eternal boy in the old man and his capacity for wonder, his insatiable curiosity and love of poetry—at eighty-five he was still committing poems to memory. It was a very real and very human John Burroughs that Dr. Sharp left with his audience. Following, the Rhode Island

Library Players gave a very effective presentation of Christopher Morley's one-act play "On the Shelf."

Thursday morning brought the Maine Library Association's program with Miss Theresa C. Stuart presiding. Tho it rained outside as those discovered who expected the meeting to be in Convention Hall as scheduled, it rained three good talks in the ball room. Professor William H. Hartshorn, of Bates College, brought encouragement to many a worried librarian in his talk on "The Value of Novel Reading." Some of the things he said: "Literature begins with fiction—the folk tale, the parable; the first request of the child is for fiction, 'Tell me a story.' Fiction in the form of the novel is the latest development in literature. It combines the emotion of the poem, the thought of the essay and the action of the drama. We may read for broader information than that of fact, the wider outlook, deeper understanding, refinement and culture of life. We may read for recreation: the novel has in this only one competitor, the drama. We may read for culture of the imagination and it is imagination that rules the world, because it is imagination which produces every ideal in life and there is no progress but what comes from the ideal and the consequent attempt to realize the ideal." Miss Bartlett, of Gardiner, under the subject "Thru the Library Door," touched on the problems of a librarian from both the inside and the outside of the door, urging that librarians, even in small libraries, get out of the routine in the library, become acquainted with the needs of the community and be active in its life.

Mr. A. L. T. Cummings, secretary of the Maine State Chamber of Commerce, the last speaker, was for years a summer neighbor of Kate Douglas Wiggin. He was, in Mrs. Wiggin's own words, "the original and, so far as I am concerned, the only Justin Peabody" in the play "The Old Peabody Pew." From his intimate acquaintance he was able to tell of many interesting occurrences in Mrs. Wiggin's home life and his sympathetic treatment of her personality made the closing number on the Maine program one long to be remembered.

MISS HEWINS' SEMI-CENTENARY.

An unusually pleasant feature of the conference not on the printed program was the dinner given by all the state associations to Miss Caroline Hewins in recognition of her golden anniversary, fifty years as librarian of the Hartford Public Library. The birthday cake with its fifty candles was carried from the dining room to the ball room of the hotel, where with Miss Alice Jordon acting as toastmaster, many librarians and friends told of the personal influence of Miss Hewins on their careers, and the profes-

sional help she was always so ready to give. Miss Hewins responded briefly and modestly by giving an account of her work. An altogether delightful occasion and a fitting tribute to a pioneer.

ROUND TABLES.

Hospital Library Work. On Tuesday afternoon there was a meeting of those interested in Hospital Library Service. Miss E. Kathleen Jones presided, and Dr. Norman J. Blackwood, of the United States Navy, in his paper on the effect of the library on the morale of the hospital, emphasized the necessity of having a trained librarian in charge of the service. Patients are sick, and not in a formal frame of mind; they must be roused to an interest in books and convinced of the comfort and recreation they can give. The introduction of libraries to the army hospitals during the war brought about an improvement of thirty per cent in the morale. Ten minute talks of various phases of the general subject were given, one of the most suggestive being an account of library service for mental troubles. Miss Elizabeth W. Reed, of the Massachusetts General Hospital, closed the session with a vivid picture of a day in the life of a hospital librarian.

Boston Catalogers. The Boston Group of Catalogers and Classifiers also held a session on Tuesday, Mrs. Frances R. Coe presiding. Miss Roberts, librarian of Wellesley College, gave an illuminating account of European libraries visited during a sabbatical year. The cataloger's product as viewed by the reference librarian, was then considered. Miss Pratt, of Yale, spoke from the viewpoint of the college library, emphasizing the limitations of the catalog for research workers, the confusion caused by double entries under the same heading, and the need of a more prompt use of new subject headings. This paper was very fully discussed. The same subject was considered from the viewpoint of the public library in a paper by Mr. Shaw, of Worcester, who dwelt chiefly on making the catalog as simple as possible with the viewpoint of the average reader constantly in mind. He also suggested that a special bibliography room would be practical and useful in many libraries.

Work with Children. A round table on work with children was held Tuesday afternoon with Agnes Cook, of Worcester, presiding. The discussion of "reading for credit," always a controversial subject, took on the nature of a debate, Miss Zachert and others speaking in favor of credit reading and Miss Anne Carroll Moore being well supported in upholding the negative side. Mrs. John J. Cronin, of Boston, spoke of the difficulties in dealing with children too

young for the adult department but who feel too old for the children's room. She gave some excellent lists of books useful in meeting the situation. Miss Sanford, of Brookline, gave an entertaining account of the birthday celebrations of authors, illustrators and favorite heroes of children which she has made a feature in her work. Special exhibits, posters, vacation reading clubs, letters to teachers and publicity features were discussed by other speakers.

Adult Education. At the Friday morning session, Mr. Belden conducted a round table on adult education. He prefaced the discussion with a sketch of the history and scope of the movement in Europe and America and introduced Mr. Dudgeon of Milwaukee, vice-chairman of the A. L. A. Committee on Adult Education, as chief speaker. Mr. Dudgeon said that the purpose behind this A.L.A. program was to emphasize, systematize and improve the work which most libraries have for a long time been doing individually and more or less successfully as a matter of course. Nothing radical need be feared and it is not intended to turn libraries into schoolhouses. He made a forceful plea for enthusiastic endorsement and support of the A.L.A. program. Mr. Dudgeon was followed by representatives of the various state associations. Miss Greta E. Brown spoke for Connecticut and Mr. Willard P. Lewis for New Hampshire, the latter emphasizing the use which can be made of the alumni reading lists prepared by Amherst, Smith and other colleges. An especially interesting report was Miss Brainerd's account of what has been accomplished in Maine. Mr. Sherman told what had been done in the Providence Public Library and gave his reasons for believing in and supporting the movement.

Circulation Problems. Thursday afternoon a meeting of Library Trustees was held, also a round table of circulation desk problems conducted by Mr. Sherman of Providence. Subjects discussed at the latter meeting included summer service and special privileges to teachers and other favored groups. The abuse of these privileges has led to their withdrawal in some libraries, notably Bridgeport. Delinquent borrowers and the cost of recovery of overdue books was another subject; on the latter no one seems to have made a scientific study, on the former many methods of procedure in stubborn cases were brought to light; in the case of Brookline a preliminary notice sent by the municipal court to the effect that action will be taken unless the book is returned has proved very effective. Old round table friends, the mutilation of books and borrower's cards versus the identification card also came in for their share of discussion.

Commission Work. A round table open to commission workers was conducted by Miss Frances Hobart of the New Hampshire Library Commission with representatives from Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Connecticut present. Various methods of extension activities were considered such as book wagons, travelling libraries and package libraries. Certification of librarians was thought to be a step to be taken only in the distant future, if at all. Other meetings on Friday were the Round Table on Prison Libraries conducted by Mrs. Belle Holcomb Johnson of the Connecticut Library Committee, the meeting of the New England School Libraries Association and the annual meeting of the New England College Librarians.

The program closed Friday evening with a joint meeting of the state associations and the S.L.A. This took the form of a discussion of every-day English or business English as it is sometimes called, the two speakers being Professor Roy Davis of the Boston University School of Business Administration and Dr. Francis K. Ball of the Editorial Department of Ginn & Co., representing opposing viewpoints on the subject. Professor Davis held that there is no reason why standards of English should not change with the times, that the common people have the right to create their language and that many new words are more expressive of the things they stand for than the older or classical words. Dr. Ball, on the other hand, found no beauty in the so-called every-day English, fears the degeneration of the language if old standards are given up and believes we must depend on scholars to maintain our language, not the common people.

A very enjoyable event in connection with the conference was the visit Friday afternoon to the home of Miss Loring, former president of the Massachusetts Library Club, at Prides Crossing, fronting the ocean at one of the most beautiful spots on the North Shore. Other excursions were the drive to Salem, the North Shore and Gloucester with stop at the House of the Seven Gables in Salem. Those taking this trip had the unusual opportunities of visits to the estates of John Hays Hammond, Jr. and Mr. Leslie Birtwell at West Gloucester. On Thursday afternoon many took advantage of the opportunity to visit the Isabella Stewart Gardner Memorial in Boston after the regular hours of opening and with a special guide. For those who could stay over Saturday, an all day visit to libraries in Boston and vicinity was arranged and Mr. L. A. Wells of the Wells Bindery at Waltham entertained at luncheon all who took this trip.

BUSINESS MEETINGS

At a business meeting of the Maine Library Association officers were elected for the years 1925-26: President, Georgiana Lunt of Auburn; vice-presidents, Martha S. Bartlett of Gardiner, Jane L. Burbank of Portland; secretary, Marion Brainerd of Augusta; treasurer, Jennie M. Smith of Waterville; member of the A.L.A. Council, Elmar T. Boyd of Bangor.

At the annual meeting of the Massachusetts Library Club, Inc., reports of officers and committees were read. The success of the conference led to the passage of a resolution proposed by Willard P. Lewis that the incoming executive committee be authorized to take up with the other state associations in New England a proposal for an all-New England Library Association with meetings in alternate years and that the sentiment of the meeting be recorded in favor of such an association. Officers for the year 1925-26 were elected as follows: President, Frank H. Chase, Boston; vice-presidents, Florence E. Wheeler, Leominster; Jane A. Hewett, Norwood; secretary, Mrs. Bertha V. Hartzell, librarian, Wellesley College; recording secretary, Galen W. Hill, Fairhaven; treasurer, George H. Evans, Somerville; editor, William N. Seaver, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; representative on A.L.A. Council, Howard L. Stebbins, Social Law Library, Boston.

GALEN W. HILL, *Recording Secretary,*
Massachusetts Library Club.

New Course in Work with Children

IN view of the increased demand for children's librarians, the School of Library Science of Western Reserve University will offer a beginning course in library work with children in addition to the advanced course already offered provided a sufficient number of students apply, the course will open September 22nd.

The requirements for admission will be the same as those stated for the general course. An examination for non-college graduates will be given September 1.

Application should be made immediately to Effie L. Power, director of the course in work with children, care of the Cleveland Public Library.

A CHILD, a client of the Savannah (Ga.) Public Library sends the following written message to the Library:

Please send me a book on "The Plastic Age," or "The Age of Chivalry"; or the "Knights of the Round Table" by this little girl.

THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

TWICE-A-MONTH

JULY, 1925



ALTHO held at the extreme north-western angle of our wide country the Seattle conference exceeded expectations in attendance, reaching above a thousand, as well as in practical outcome. President Meyer's address was excellent in its progressive spirit, and he outlined broadly and effectively the chief topics to which the conference gave attention in planning towards the second half-century of A. L. A. achievement, to wit, adult education, library extension, and the school library. This conference may indeed be taken as the rounding up of the first half-century, for the semi-centennial conference will be looked upon as the start of the new era in which, as President Meyer pointed out, library extension will have a psychological rather than a physical meaning, in the broadening of the field of service and in more intensive application of the library spirit. The welcome from President Suzzallo, of the University of Washington, which preceded, even surpassed the librarian's view of his own profession, by suggesting that the professor of the future will be simply a good reference librarian and in emphasizing Carlyle's famous dictum by defining the university of the future as "a lot of books, an earnest student, and someone who knows them both and can bring them into thoughtful accord." In place of the education which commits suicide after school age he again emphasized the library viewpoint that systematic education thru books is more important than education thru haphazard experience or thru social contacts.

THE past few weeks have indeed been notable for their many library gatherings, coming in close succession. Second only to the A. L. A. conference in importance was the national meeting of the Special Libraries Association at Swampscott, with over two hundred registered attendants, which scored definite progress, while the all-New England conference held simultaneously brought together over five hundred eastern librarians denied by distance and expense of time and money the gratification of the A. L. A. conference. The S. L. A. meeting showed a new enthusiasm in the work of that organization, now including some seven hundred members in two-score different lines of work, with local associations in at least six city centers and in-

cidental touch thruout a larger field. "All-New England" joined at Swampscott in hearty and deserved tribute to Miss Hewins in honor of her fifty years as librarian at Hartford, and all the profession will certainly join in spirit in like tribute. In New York State "Library Week" was removed in time and place from the usual meeting and those attending had the satisfaction of coming into relation with college library work in an institution which ranks among the foremost and earliest of women's colleges. The California state association arranged its meeting so that librarians on their way to Seattle might enjoy its hospitality and its program. While the Arkansas Hot Spring meeting of 1923 gave exceptional opportunity for meeting between librarians north and south the present year is even more noteworthy in bringing together librarians in different states all the way between the Atlantic and the Pacific.

THOSE who journey thru southern California on the way home from Seattle will unfortunately miss the sight of the most beautiful of library buildings in its pristine condition, for the earthquake at Santa Barbara did great damage to the local library whose convenient location next the main street unfortunately included that building within the zone of worst disaster. The outdoor reading room in its patio was an especial delight and Mrs. Lynn had made her library and its work one of the best features of that pleasant city. Sympathy will go out to her from all library friends, but the public spirit of Santa Barbara, heightened instead of diminished by the disaster, will doubtless restore the library building in due time and make it the more worthy to do its part in the better and more beautiful city which will arise from the ruins of the old.

FLORIDA means to show that she does not need outside stimulus to make her state library work progressive and permanent. It is the good fortune of the library profession therein that Mrs. Anne Van Ness Brown, president of the Florida Library Association, has had such influence within the state assembly that seconded by Senator Carl Bohnenberger in the upper house she has been able to obtain the passage

of a library law which at least makes a beginning of state library progress by providing for a library commission as well as the state library. Twelve thousand dollars is surely an inadequate sum for state work on any adequate scale, but a start may be made in reshaping the state library finally housed in the state judiciary building which supplements the state capitol into a live institution. Hitherto state librarians elsewhere have found the Florida state library the most difficult of all from which to get documents or information and this condition the new library spirit should promptly change. It

is to be hoped that Mr. Bryan's hand may not stay progress in Florida libraries by denying them books on evolution, and we are glad to be informed that the press dispatch to the effect that the Georgia legislature had some time since "deferred appropriations" for the state library in fear that it might disseminate evolution propaganda was in error. Mrs. Cobb, as state librarian, is indeed able to report that in the seventeen years of her service as state librarian she has had only sympathetic and adequate support from the legislators who are her co-workers in the state capitol at Atlanta.

LIBRARY ORGANIZATIONS

NEW YORK LIBRARY WEEK

ON June 15th Dr. Henry Noble MacCracken, president of Vassar College, welcomed the New York Library Association to the college for the thirty-fifth annual conference of the Association. The registered attendants numbered 272.

At a business meeting on Wednesday evening, the 17th, the Constitution was amended to provide for the creation of a Council to carry out the important projects in regard to the collection and preservation of state historical material which the Association has in mind. Article IV of the constitution was also amended to read: "The officers of the Association shall be a president, a vice-president, and a secretary-treasurer. The president and the vice-president shall be elected by ballot at each annual meeting and shall serve till the close of the meeting at which their successors are chosen. The secretary-treasurer shall be chosen by the executive board, shall hold office at its pleasure and shall receive such compensation as it shall fix."

The Council is to consist of nine members; two to be elected annually for terms of three years; and the president ex-officio to serve for three years. Thus the Council will always include six members who have been chosen by the association to serve in this capacity, the president for the year and two past presidents. The president of the association will preside at meetings of the Council. It shall be the duty of the Council to appoint all committees, to formulate and carry out the policies of the association, to determine the place and date of meetings of the association and to act for the association in the intervals between the annual conferences.

It will seek the co-operation of the N. Y. State Historical Association to devise and execute plans for the systematic collection and pre-

servation of archives and source material relating to the history of the state. It will survey existing collections of such material relating to the state and its divisions, whether in public or private collections; determine what libraries, other than the State Library, if any, should be depositories of mss. material relating to the state as a whole; or what libraries should be encouraged and assisted to collect local material—regional, county and town; and prepare a pamphlet on the collection, arrangement and preservation of historical source material, with detailed suggestions as to the kinds of material to be included, the methods by which such things can be obtained, etc., for the guidance not only of librarians and authorities in local history societies, but also for those individuals thruout the state who are interested in local history.

Furthermore, the Council is to publish a list of local history collections; prepare a check list and index of New York State Public Documents 1888-1926 to supplement and bring down to date the latest index published by the state legislature; compile a list of special manuscript indexes and catalogs in libraries in the state; and survey special collections in New York State libraries, this survey to include all such collections, with careful description or characterization of each.

General sessions were held Tuesday and Friday. At the first, under the direction of Ernest J. Reece, the theme was "Current A. L. A. Activities." Florence Overton, of New York, gave a résumé of the A. L. A. Survey and personnel studies conducted by the Institute for Government Research; Augustus H. Shearer, of Buffalo, discussed the work of the Board of Education for Librarianship; Paul M. Paine, of Syracuse, gave a short talk on the A. L. A. reading courses; and Mary L. Sutliff, of New York,

described the new A. L. A. Catalog now in preparation under the editorship of Isabella Cooper. Dr. Shearer spoke again on the Guide to Historical Literature, and Mr. Reece concluded the session with a talk on forthcoming A. L. A. textbooks—Carl Roden's on book selection, John Adams Lowe's "Library Administration," Asa Wynkoop's "The Library Movement," and Isadora Mudge's "Methods of Reference Work."

At Tuesday evening's general session, Prof. Margaret Floy Washburn, of the Department of Psychology, gave a talk on some aspects of modern psychology, or popular misconceptions of psychology, showing in the second part of her talk that some of the ways of making vocational selections by psychology are particularly valueless. At the conclusion of this address, the Vassar Players, who had given a series of one-act plays the evening before, presented another program. On Wednesday evening Dr. William S. Learned, of the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, gave an address on the part of the public library in the diffusion of knowledge.

The health of the library worker was discussed by Dr. Eugene Lyman Fisk, of the Life Extension Institute, at the last general session. He stated that on the basis of such information as he had that library work involves no unusual health hazard. Insurance companies give library workers a good rating, fully up to the average. He spoke of evening work, saying that to some individuals the disturbance of the normal rhythm and elimination of the usual recreation hours when others seek recreation may be a factor of some importance. However, "it may be assumed that people who seek such a service are prepared to adjust themselves to such a requirement." Ventilation, rest periods, variation of work to avoid monotony, and protection of the nose and throat from library dust were also touched upon. An enthusiastic account of the success of the Dalton Plan in the South Philadelphia Girls High School was next given by Mary P. Farr, librarian of the school. The Dalton plan provides for individual work and individual instruction and allows each pupil to work at her own rate of speed. It "has done away with the after-school rushes and the library is comfortably filled each period of the day."

Round tables supplemented the work of the general sessions. That on local source materials, held Monday evening, was especially valuable in connection with the discussions on Wednesday evening on future policies and undertakings of the Association. At the round table on the Newspaper Press, led by Professor Lucy M. Salmon, of the History Department, the Justice collection was described and displayed. Of

particular interest were the transcripts of twenty German newspapers received only by the Library of Congress after the close of the war. The transcripts were made and subscribed for by the Universities of Michigan, Wisconsin, and Illinois, Princeton University and Vassar College.

Children's work occupied an all-morning session on Wednesday, when Jacqueline Overton described the Children's Library at Westbury, L. I.; Louise Seaman, of the Macmillan Company, discussed the problems of publishing for children; and Mabel Williams, of the New York Public Library, told of her experiments with book talks to visiting classes and her book clubs, in which she tries to have the child select books spontaneously instead of according to lists for required reading.

Employment standards for the N. Y. L. A. were presented by Carl L. Cannon following Wednesday evening's business meeting. Interviews with a number of directors of professional, commercial and private placement bureaus showed that the cost of conducting professional placement bureaus is high, and voluntary placement bureaus, such as those conducted by a part-time secretary of an association such as the N. Y. L. A., without sufficient office force, have been found generally unsatisfactory. The possibilities were advanced of a regional division of the A. L. A. to embrace some such territory as New England and the middle and central Atlantic states, or the possibility of such state offices affiliating with placement bureaus already in existence, such as the Y. W. C. A. bureau in New York City. The Committee was continued and was asked to bring forward a definite plan at next year's meeting. Other related topics discussed were standards governing employment and dismissal, working conditions, and intelligence and ability tests.

The preliminary report of the Committee on Institutes stated that the whole number of persons attending the meetings was 1564, a gain of 34 over the previous high record of 1924, and of 664 over the attendance at the meetings held five years ago. The full report will appear in the August issue of *New York Libraries*.

Franklin F. Hopper, of the New York Public Library, was elected president, and Harriet B. Prescott, of Columbia University, vice-president, for the coming year.

CALIFORNIA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

THE Thirtieth Annual Meeting of the California Library Association, held at Eureka June 29th to July 1st, will always be a happy memory for those privileged to attend it; the traditional hospitality of California's northwest,

an unusually fine program, and the presence of numerous past presidents as guests combined to make the occasion unforgettable.

The first session was opened with a welcome from the Honorable Oscar W. Lord, Mayor of Eureka, who presented to the Association a beautiful gavel fashioned from redwood burl. President H. O. Parkinson's address on educating the adult librarian, was a pertinent plea for the executive librarians not to take themselves so much for granted, but to apply to themselves the questions submitted in the Questionnaire sent out by the A. L. A. committee on the classification of library personnel. Mr. Parkinson stated that his purpose was not to urge another survey, but rather to suggest that if librarians are to take a prominent part in the work of adult education, one of the biggest fields for study lies closest to them, namely, the executive librarians themselves. Mrs. Theodora R. Brewitt outlined the adult educational methods used at Long Beach, pointing out how the library can well use the already established agencies, namely the night- and part-time schools, the University extension classes, and the study clubs, adding other channels as the work progresses. Mrs. Brewitt characterized the usable reading course as that one which is brief, unduplicated, well annotated, and which possesses a clean-cut introduction. Dr. Tully C. Knoles, president of the College of the Pacific, Stockton, gave a stirring address on changing ideals in education, pleading for more education in America, rather than an ever-increasing amplification of educational systems.

The second session, held at the Humboldt State Teachers College, Arcata, opened with greetings from Mr. Graves, librarian. Miss Provines, speaking on "Men and Measures," told of her unique work with the Folsom State Prison in Sacramento County, where she is supplying the men with general and specialized readings. Following, Willis H. Kerr, librarian-elect of Pomona College, Claremont, described the "Friends of Reading," in vogue in eastern communities, and pointed out how any group of people can foster the reading habit thru friendly interest in the reading of others. Luncheon served by the domestic science department to the accompaniment of a musical program, was followed by a scenic trip up the coast beyond the whaling station at Trinidad.

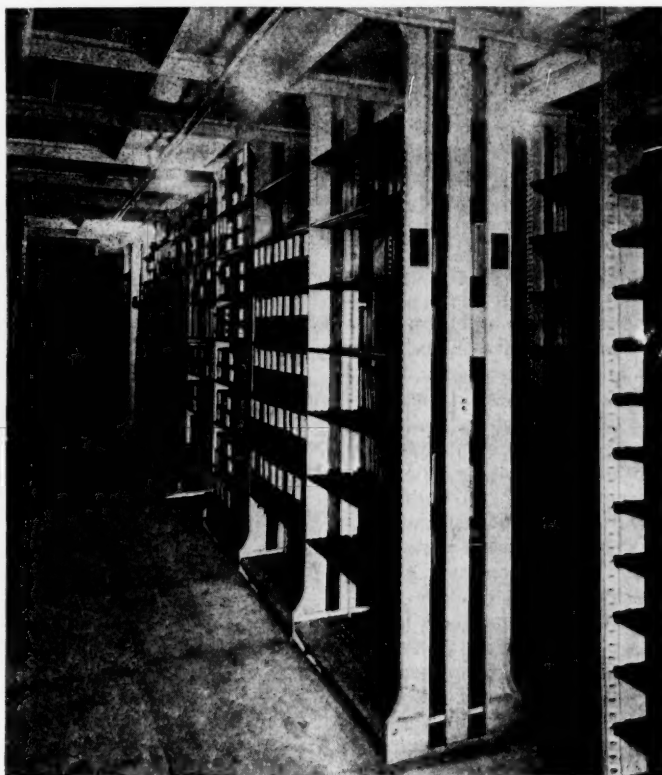
At the third session Mary E. Ahern made a plea for balance in all human relationships, and especially for that balance on the part of the librarian which will secure for the community an adequate library plant cheerfully supported by an interested public. "Greedy for Punishment" was the topic chosen by Mrs. Babcock, to describe her successful venture into the

bookselling world, and Mr. Ferguson told of "Discovering California," tracing the paths of the early explorers of the golden state, and concluding that there is a spiritual California, as yet hardly unfolded to us.

ROUND TABLES

The Publicity and Lending round tables, under the direction of Bessie Silverthorn, heard fine papers by Melba C. Burden, Ellen Frink, Muriel Wright, and Charles F. Woods, librarian of the Riverside Public Library. School librarians led by Margaret W. Smith, discussed library lists of value to the junior and senior high school library, subject headings for the high school catalog, recent books of interest to school librarians, and the establishment of a junior high school library in Berkeley, with papers by Mrs. Elizabeth Madison, Glyde Maynard, Margaret Girdner, and Elizabeth Patton. The Trustees' section met, with Mrs. J. Wells Smith, of Los Angeles, in charge. Children's librarians had quite a spirited session under the leadership of Alice Burgess. Ellen Yoder discussed popular children's books, Faith E. Smith gave the school point of view, and Mrs. Constance Mitchell told how children's libraries and bookshops may co-operate, especially during Children's Book Week. Henry R. Huntting, of Springfield, talked on library bindings, and the section closed with a discussion of the need of children's librarians in California, set in motion by Mrs. Theodora R. Brewitt, who told of her many experiences in finding children's librarians for Long Beach.

Kathleen Keating had charge of the catalog and reference round table. The program was divided into two parts. The first, dealing with adult education and the reference department, had papers on reference work for adult education, by Winifred Lewis, the use of public documents by Eleanor Sturges, and on aid for the business man by Margaret Chiles, of the Sacramento City Library. All of these papers were valuable, stressing the work which the wide-awake reference department can do for all classes of adults. The second part, devoted to the problems of cataloging for the reader, stressed both the general public, presented by Alice Healy, and the university public, discussed by Alice Charlton. The municipal libraries section, directed by President Minnie Maxwell, enjoyed papers by Mrs. Mabel Faulkner, of the Orange Public Library, on the "Librarian and the Indifferent Community"; by Jane Baumler, who described Hawaiian and California experiences; and by Helen T. Kennedy, who discussed "When a Branch Library is Justified." Marian Greene led an informal symposium on routine library problems.



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OFFICERS

Officers elected: President, Mrs. Theodora R. Brewitt, Long Beach; vice-president, Mabel R. Gillis; and secretary-treasurer, Hazel G. Gibson.

THE ASSOCIATION—TO ITS FIRST PRESIDENT

One of the happiest features of the entire meeting was the birthday party given to celebrate the thirtieth anniversary of the founding of the Association and to honor Joseph Cummings Rowell, librarian-emeritus of the University of California, the first president. Mr. and Mrs. Rowell made the long trip to help commemorate the instituting of the Association, and the celebration took the form of a birthday dinner arranged by the Jinks Committee with B. B. Futernick in charge. Mr. Ferguson presided charmingly, calling on various members and guests to lend their wit and humor to the festivities. He presented to Mr. Rowell a handsome loving cup as an indication of the love and esteem in which all California librarians hold their first president, and Mr. Rowell responded with an eloquent account of the founding of the Association and of the early meetings, fascinating the younger members and bringing to the older members happy memories of days past. Susan T. Smith carried all into the future with her clever and amusing prophecy of the librarian of 1945, and the evening closed with dancing, story-telling by Isabella M. Cooper, A. L. A. Headquarters, and varied stunts ably presented by the members.

HAZEL G. GIBSON, *Secretary*.

CALIFORNIA COUNTY LIBRARIANS

CALIFORNIA County Librarians met jointly with the California Library Association, June 27th-28th. Mr. Ferguson opened the sessions by sketching recent library developments, and then called on four librarians appointed during the year, to tell what particular phases of the new work they had found most interesting. Clever and earnest responses were made by Martha June Coleman, Ellen B. Frink, Edith Gantt, and Minette L. Stoddard. Isabella M. Cooper, editor of the 1926 A. L. A. Catalog, in a most enthusiastic talk, made the problems of the new catalog seem very close to all present. Her stay at Eureka endeared her to all librarians present.

All the bookmen present gave short, worthwhile responses to Mr. Ferguson's call. The annual roll call of county librarians followed; with each telling briefly of some outstanding event of the past year, all giving renewed evidences of healthy progress.

Supper at Moonstone Beach, provided by the Humboldt County staff gave opportunity for

library stunts and speeches, arranged by Miss Provines, and next day brought a tour of inspection of various Humboldt County Library branches, and the sessions closed with a talk by Loleta I. Dawson, Wayne County Librarian, of Michigan, on the work in her interesting county.

LIBRARY OPPORTUNITIES

POSITIONS WANTED

- Young lady with four years' library experience wishes position either as first assistant or head of loan department. L. B. 13.
- Library assistant with twenty months' experience in indexing, cataloging, reference and research work in art department, would like position in library. Good stenographer and typist, cultured, well educated and with organizing ability. Y. M. 13.
- Wanted, position in fair-sized library in Middle West by library assistant with three and a half years' experience in city of 60,000. Children's work or extension work preferred. O. E. 13.
- Librarian who has increased circulation 50 per cent during past year in present position, desires position in Montana. Training and experience. V. G. 13.
- Librarian (male) desires position in eastern United States. College graduate, library school training, best of references. Salary secondary consideration. W. R. 13.
- Library assistant with three years' college, nine months' public library training course, and four years' experience in public and school libraries, desires position in or near Chicago. L. R. 13.
- College graduate with library training and twelve years' experience in public, college, and special libraries, specializing in Classification, wishes to change her position. P. L. 13.
- Trained librarian of varied experience in library work, able to translate from six languages (four years' experience as translator in U. S. War Department) who is at present chief cataloger in a college library in Canada, wishes to return to the U. S. and would consider a similar position or a reference position in a library in New York, or somewhere between New York and Baltimore, on September 1 or thereafter. G. L. 13.
- A library school graduate with a B. A. degree and ten years of public and school library experience, wishes an executive position in or near Chicago. T. E. 13.
- College and library school graduate with two years' cataloging experience in a college library wishes cataloging or other library position the 1st of September. A. B. 13.
- Young woman desires library position, preferably as reference assistant in school or college library. Has had experience in public and special libraries and is a normal school graduate. H. C. 13.

POSITIONS OFFERED

- Wanted, a children's librarian, September 1st. Salary \$1400. Public Library, Salem, Oregon. Maud E. Covington, Librarian.
- Wanted, assistant to the Supervisor of Staff Instruction. Should have library school training, several years of library experience and ability to teach. Salary \$1800. Brooklyn Public Library, 280 Washington Avenue, Brooklyn, N. Y.
- A children's librarian with full library school training and some experience is wanted at once by the Public Library at St. Joseph, Missouri. Qualified applicants are asked to address I. R. Bundy, Librarian.
- Wanted, a position as librarian of a small library or as branch librarian in a city in Indiana, Ohio or Illinois, by woman of long experience who can give references of previous work. Address I. A. Lewis, 401 Washington St., Valparaiso, Ind.
- Library school graduate with further training for work with children and several years' experience in it, would like position in a progressive and growing industrial center. A. E. 13.
- Wanted, position as cataloger or assistant in college or university library. Full information and references available. Address Th. W. L. Scheltema, 215 Randall Ave., Madison, Wisconsin.
- Supervisor of Work with Children and Schools*—Progressive library, large industrial town within easy reach of New York City. Salary at beginning \$2000. Several annual increases. Must be graduate of library school and must have demonstrated ability of high order for this special work in large or medium size library. Under authority and direction of the chief librarian, the supervisor is to take entire charge of the work with children at the main library and all branches. She will be responsible for book purchases in that department—submitting lists to the librarian, and must have a thorough knowledge of the best literature for children. She must be a skillful story teller, able to hold an audience of children and to turn the interest around to good account in guiding their reading.
- She may be placed in charge of all work with schools and co-operation between library and schools.
- Address N. P. 13, care of the LIBRARY JOURNAL.

A FORECAST OF FALL

It is too early to give you detailed announcements about the books we expect to publish during the balance of this year, but you will be interested in knowing that these are the "high spots" of our Fall List.

THE PANCHATANTRA

Translated by Arthur W. Ryder (Early Fall) \$4.00

PANCHATANTRA TALES

Translated by Arthur W. Ryder (Early Fall) \$2.00

HOW TO WRITE BUSINESS LETTERS

By John A. Powell (September) \$1.50

THINGS SEEN AND HEARD

By Edgar J. Goodspeed (September) \$2.00

AN INTRODUCTION TO SPANISH LITERATURE

By George T. Northup (August) \$3.00

LECTURE NOTES ON OPTICS

By A. A. Michelson (October) \$2.00

NEW ASPECTS OF POLITICS

By Charles E. Merriam (Early Fall) \$2.50

RETAIL ACCOUNTING AND CONTROL

By Albert C. Hodge (Early Fall) \$3.00

THE BARROWS LECTURES FOR 1925

By Charles W. Gilkey (Early Fall) \$2.00

THE CITY

By Robert E. Park (August) \$2.50

You will receive more complete information on all of our forthcoming books within a few weeks.

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CURRENT LITERATURE AND BIBLIOGRAPHY

Compilers and editors of library lists and periodicals will welcome the eighth edition (the first since 1920) of the University of Chicago "Manual of Style," which has been so thoroly revised as to be in many respects a new book. (May, 1925. \$3).

Too late for inclusion in our June 1 number came the decision of D. Appleton and Co. to reissue "Charles Dickens and His Girl Heroines" by Belle Moses, which will probably be ready for distribution at the end of this month. This is in response to the request of children's librarians that the book be reprinted.

A pamphlet in the Modern American Library Economy Series is about to be issued "Filing System by Colored Bands," illustrated with diagrams in color, explaining how to adapt the Newark colored band system to material of many kinds. (H. W. Wilson Co.).

The new building of the Detroit (Mich.) Public Library is the subject of an appreciative, fully-illustrated monograph by one of its makers, W. Francklyn Paris, who dedicates the book to Cass Gilbert, architect of the building. Under the title "The House That Love Built; an Italian Renaissance Temple to Arts and Letters," it is published by the Haddon Press of New York.

A second edition of the "List of Subject Headings for Information File," compiled by Helen F. Gould and Emma A. Grady, has been published by the H. W. Wilson Company in the series: Modern American Library Economy as Illustrated by the Newark (N. J.) Free Public Library, edited by John Cotton Dana. Of the 3500 main entries included in the edition of 1917 probably a third have been dropped, an equal number have replaced these and about 500 have been added bringing the present list up to about 4000 entries. The preface explains briefly how the pamphlet library and information file are handled and there is a four-page list of important sources of information on current topics constantly used. (H. W. Wilson Co., May, 1925. 88p.)

In "Fifty Years of Cleveland" Charles E. Kennedy, for many years editor and general manager of the *Cleveland Plain Dealer* writes (chapter 25) of his long connection with the Board of Trustees of the Cleveland Public Library and of the library's development during the librarianship of William H. Brett, lasting from 1884 until his death by accident in 1918.

The years 1900-1909 brought forth over a

third (twenty-two) of the classics selected by Harriet Price Sawyer to form the volume on "The Library and its Contents," the fifth in the Classics of American Librarianship edited by Dr. Bostwick. The nineties saw the publication of nine as did also the second decade of this century, the eighties a meagre five, and the first three years of the library renaissance, 1876-1878, ten, weighty with the papers on accessioning by Dewey, Winsor and Poole. Twenty-nine of the papers were first published in the LIBRARY JOURNAL, seven in *Public Libraries* and half a dozen in the 1876 special report of the U. S. Education Bureau on public libraries in the United States. (New York: H. W. Wilson Co., 1925. 471p. \$2.25.)

"Library Law; a Text-Book for the Professional Examinations in Library Organization," by Charles Rupert Sanderson, librarian of the National Liberal Club, London, is "a book which aims to make the main body of library law intelligible from a library student's point of view and not to answer intricate legal queries from a lawyer's point of view" (London: John and Edward Bumpus). The arrangement of contents follows that of the Library Association Syllabus for Library Organization (Section V). Part I contains summaries of British statutes concerning libraries; Part II considers under various headings the provisions of British statutes concerning libraries; and Part III has outlines and special features of colonial and United States legislation concerning libraries. The book is indexed.

The dissertation presented by Tse-Chien Tai, B. L. S. New York State Library School, 1918, for the Ph.D. degree at the University of Iowa on June 5 is "Professional Education for Librarianship: A Proposal for a Library School at the University of Iowa." Arrangements are being made for the publication of this thesis of which the professor of philosophy on the committee says that never had he read a more masterly dissertation. Dr. Tai is a graduate of St. John's University, Shanghai, and was librarian of the Low Library there from 1912 to 1914, leaving to become librarian of Tsing Hua College, Peking, which post he held until his coming to the United States to take the Albany course. He served as assistant librarian at Camp Upton in 1918-1919, and in the following five years contributed much to the library movement in his own country, as director of the summer library school at the National Teachers' Univer-

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- 547: España y Portugal.
- 549: History of art.
- 551: Music and liturgy.
Theatre. Song.
- 552: Ceramic—Glass.
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sity in Peking in 1920, adviser to the Nankai University Library, Tientsin, and to the General Tsai Soong Po Memorial Library in Peking and

as chief librarian at Tsing Hua College, as well as serving on several library and other educational committees.

AMONG LIBRARIANS

AUSSIEKER, Meta B., head cataloger, State College of Washington, Pullman, Wash., has resigned to become head cataloger in Connecticut College, New London, Conn., Sept. 1.

BARR, Charles James, who succeeded Andrew Keogh as assistant librarian of Yale University in 1917, died suddenly on July 17 from a heart attack. Professor Barr left the teaching profession to enter that of librarianship via the Albany school class of 1903. His first post was that of classifier and cataloger of the Wilmington (Dela.) Historical Society's Library; after some time at the Library of Congress he became reference librarian and in the following year assistant librarian of the John Crerar library, which post he held until his appointment at Yale. "Mr. Barr," says the *New Haven Journal-Courier*, "was the book lover and specialist of literature outlined in stories. He was a bachelor, quiet and unassuming; his hobbies were Dryden and gardening. His courtesy and the sweet dignity with which he invested his intangible calling entitle him to take a goodly place in an honored Yale company—with Dexter, Van Name, Schwab and the others who have gone before."

BUKER, Lucy M., 1922 New York State, has resigned as acting ln. of Marshall College, Huntington, W. Va., and is in charge of the library of the University of Delaware during the summer session.

CULVER, Essae M., 1907-08 New York State, has been appointed executive secretary of the Louisiana Library Commission. Miss Culver has been doing county library work in California for several years.

DOANE, Gilbert H., 1920-21 New York State, has resigned as head of the Classification Department of the University of Michigan L. to become ln. of the University of Nebraska.

HALE, Ruth, 1923 Washington, has received an appointment as asst. in the Acquisitions Department of the University of Washington L., Seattle.

HAMBURGER, Madame L. Haffkin, director of the Moscow Institute for library science has completed her thirty-fifth year of library service. In reply to a cablegram of congratulation sent by the A. L. A. Madame Haffkin Hamburger replies: "The congratulations in the name of American librarians have filled me with joy

and pride, because I owe very much of my efficiency to American library methods and I appreciate very much the opinion of our oversea colleagues. Please be so kind as to tell the American librarians how grateful I am not only for their congratulations but for all that I learned from them. . . ."

HAWKINS, Jean, 1902 New York State, died at her home in Malone, N. Y., after an illness of several months. She had been actively engaged in library work since her graduation from the Library School, for the first few years serving as cataloger at Bryn Mawr College Library, as librarian of the public library at Eau Claire, Wis., and as organizer of the Athenaeum Library at Saratoga Springs. Her longest service and most notable work, however, was as an instructor in library science. She will be remembered as one of the most successful teachers in this field and as one always very popular with the student body. From 1907 to June, 1920, she was a member of the faculty of the New York State Library School, where she taught cataloging, classification, loan work and shelf work, at the summer session as well as in the regular school. For the years following her resignation at the Library School she was librarian of the National Industrial Conference Board and for two summers was an instructor at the University of Michigan Summer School of Library Methods.

HINSDALE, Gladys H., 1921-22 New York State, who has been in charge of the Jubilee branch of the Buffalo P. L., has been appointed ln. of the high school at Solvay, N. Y.

HEWINS, Caroline M., has completed fifty years' work as librarian of the Hartford (Conn.) Public Library, to which she was called from an assistantship at the Boston Athenaeum in 1875. A short biographical sketch in the *LIBRARY JOURNAL* for June 15, 1920, and a paper, partly autobiographic, in the number for February 1914, gives some account of the work to which the All New England Conference paid tribute at a "birthday" party on June 23.

JAMES, May Hall, of the faculty of the Providence Technical High School presented as her doctor's thesis at Brown University last month a study of the Providence Public Library and of lines for its future expansion. The study was prepared in close co-operation with the public library.

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KITTLESON, Corinne, 1910 Wisconsin, of the New York Public Library, appointed librarian of the New York Homeopathic Medical College.

PETERSON, Agnes, 1922 Washington, is now ln. of the Raymond (Wash.) P. L.

O'SULLIVAN, Mary I., 1915-16 New York State, appointed head cataloger at Goucher College, Baltimore, Md.

POTTER, Marjorie F., 1922-23 New York State, appointed ln. of the Detroit Junior High School, Cleveland, Ohio.

PEACOCK, Rev. Joseph L., president of Shaw University, Raleigh, N. C., since 1920, and formerly for eleven years librarian of the Westerly (R. I.) Public Library, has received the honorary D.D. degree from Brown University for his work in Negro education.

PRATT, Anne S., assistant reference librarian at the Yale University Library, appointed reference librarian. Emily Hardy Hall, formerly reference assistant, has been appointed assistant reference librarian.

STILLWELL, Margaret B., since 1917 curator of the Annmary Brown Memorial Library and formerly of the New York Public and the John Carter Brown libraries, has been awarded an honorary degree of master of arts by Brown University in recognition of her work as "custodian of a high tradition, who in the quiet and still air of delightful studies is discovering each year new sources of beauty and of truth."

STOTHART, Martha S., 1924 New York State, for the past year ln. of the Free Academy at Utica, N. Y., has accepted a similar position at the new Warren Harding High School at Bridgeport, Conn.

WOODWORTH, Florence, 1888 New York State, retired from the staff of the New York State Library and the faculty of the Library School on July 1st after a continuous service of more than thirty-six years. Her connection with the Library School is unique. She was the first student admitted to the first class when the school was opened at Columbia University on Jan. 5, 1887. She sailed with her sister on July 11 for an indefinite stay in Europe.

Additional appointments from the class of 1925, Drexel Library School, include John Scarborough Gummere, summer work in the reference department of the Cleveland (O.) P. L.; Dorothy Hale Litchfield, third asst., periodical dept., Philadelphia Free L.; and Dorothy Rogers, supervisor of school ls., New Brunswick, N. J.

Additional appointments of graduates receiv-

ing credentials from the Library School of the New York Public Library last June are those of Kathleen Garvin as asst. in the Charlotte (N. C.) P. L. and Adeline Perkins as asst. in the Alliance (O.) P. L. Thru an inadvertence another list of appointments from this school on page 550 of the LIBRARY JOURNAL for June 15 appeared to be a continuation of the list of appointments made from the graduating class of the Pratt Institute School of Library Science.

Members of the class of 1925, Carnegie Library School, Pittsburgh, have received appointments as follows: Magdalene Austen, asst. ln., Grandview (O.) P. L.; Mary Armstrong Ayres, ln., Clarion Normal School, Clarion, Pa.; Martha Barnes, asst., Long Beach (Calif.) P. L.; Ruth Brininstool, first asst., Mansfield (O.) P. L.; Rena Carlson, asst. ln., High School L., Reading, Pa.; Blanche Collins, asst., Long Beach (Calif.) P. L.; Dorothy Dickey, children's ln., Tampa (Fla.) P. L.; Martha Foreman, children's ln., Seattle (Wash.) P. L.; Hilda Henke, children's ln., Detroit (Mich.) P. L.; Anastasia Ledden, children's ln., Detroit (Mich.) P. L.; Helga Mollerup, children's ln., Copenhagen (Denmark) P. L.; Lorena Mondeveau, children's ln., District of Columbia P. L.; Amy Maude Ramsay, asst., catalog department, Toledo (O.) P. L.; Martha Stewart, asst., Lima (O.) P. L.; Mary Cromer, Helen Foley, Esther Ginsburg, Margaret McFate, and Ruth Orwig, assts., Carnegie L. of Pittsburgh.

Appointments of New York State Library School students supplementing earlier announcements follow. Class of 1925: Marjorie E. Bowers, cataloger, University of Nebraska L.; Randall W. B. French, cataloger, John Crear L.; David J. Haykin, temporary asst., reference department, New York P. L.; Bessie M. Landfear, ln., Sedalia (Mo.), P. L.; Elsa R. Nordin, head cataloger, Minnesota Historical Society L.; Mary L. Samson, asst., reference section, New York State L. Class of 1926: James Brewster, asst., New York State L.; Mrs. Irene R. Conner, ln., Rutland (Vt.), P. L.; Ruth E. Dilley, reference ln., State Normal School L., Bellingham, Wash.; Lucille Elwood, and Grace L. Giffin, temporary assts., Circulation Department, New York P. L.; Constance N. Handler, asst. ln., Free Academy, Utica, N. Y.; Blanche C. Kerns, temporary asst., Detroit P. L.; Helen Martin, temporary asst., reference section, New York State L.; Sarah S. Molony, asst., St. Joseph (Mo.), P. L.

Members of the Class of 1925, Western Reserve School of Library Science, have been placed as follows: Bernice E. Brehman, asst.

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The following appointments of the Class of 1925 of the University of Wisconsin Library School have been made: Ruth M. Bird, asst., High School L., Tulsa, Okla.; Dagny Borge, junior reviser, Wisconsin L. School, Madison; Alberta L. Brown, asst. ln., Creighton University L., Omaha, Neb.; Katharine S. Davidson, asst. in reference work, Muskegon (Mich.) P. L.; Suzette Dunlevy, ln., High School L., Evansville, Ind.; Juanita Engstrand, ln., Argo (Ill.) P. L.; May Hail Fischer, asst. cataloger, Connecticut College for Women, New London, Conn.; Sarah D. N. Fisher, first asst., circulation department, Vancouver (B.C.) P. L.; Myria V. Gile, asst., Junior High School L., Minneapolis (Minn.) P. L.; Julia E. Hahn, asst., catalog department, Public Library, Dayton (O.) P. L.; Myrtle G. Hart, ln., Illinois College, Jacksonville; Mildred Hase, children's ln., Beloit (Wis.) P. L.; Mary L. Henderson, asst.,

Burlington (Iowa) P. L.; Clara Hinton, cataloger, Cedar Rapids (Iowa) P. L.; Alice M. Kenton, ln., High School L., Denver (Colo.); Aileen E. MacGeorge, ln., Rice Lake (Wis.) P. L.; Flossie M. Martin, cataloger, Waterloo (Iowa) P. L.; Hester Meigs, asst., children's department, Superior (Wis.) P. L.; Hazel Merry, asst., acquisition department, Dayton (O.) P. L.; Ann Mittelman, asst., catalog department, Detroit (Mich.) P. L.; Anna R. Moore, acting librarian for summer session, State Normal School, Oshkosh, Wis.; Gertrude L. Nash, asst., catalog department, Public Library, Dayton (O.) P. L.; Augusta M. Nielsen, ln., Burlington (Wis.) P. L.; Mrs. Clyde B. Nielsen, asst., Eau Claire (Wis.) P. L.; Helen L. Pier, asst., catalog department, Gilbert M. Simmons P. L., Kenosha, Wis.; Emilie W. M. Röd, asst., children's department, Cleveland (O.) P. L.; Berdine Thornton, ln., High School L., Goshen, Ind.; Lydia Wagner, asst., catalog department, Iowa State College, Ames.

Members of the graduating class of the University of Washington Library School have received appointments as follows: Bessie Greenwood, cataloger, Victoria (B. C.) P. L.; Mary Howard, cataloger, Univ. of Washington Law L., Seattle, Wash.; Lois Klock, circulation asst., Oregon Agricultural College, Corvallis; Lucretia Larkin, asst., Hoquiam (Wash.) P. L.; Kathleen G. Lewis, asst., Univ. of British Columbia, Vancouver; M. Ruth MacDonald, cataloger, Reed College, Portland, Ore.; Frances Nelson, reviser, Univ. of Washington L., Seattle; Lawrence Petroske, ln., St. Martin's College, Lacey, Ore.; Lena Tucker, asst., cataloging department, Univ. of Washington L.; Flora Worthing, asst., cataloging department, Vancouver (B.C.) P. L.

LIBRARY CALENDAR

Sept. 14-19. In Birmingham, England. Annual conference of the Library Association.

October 1-3. At Pueblo. Joint meeting of the Colorado and New Mexico Library Association.

October 6-7. At La Crosse. Meeting of the Wisconsin Library Association.

October 8-10. At Libby, Lincoln County. Montana Library Association.

October 13-15. At Rockford. Illinois Library Association.

October 14-16. At Sioux City, Iowa. Regional A. L. A. meeting in which the library associations of Minnesota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Iowa and Missouri will join.

Oct. 20-23. At Fort Wayne. Joint meeting of the Indiana, Michigan and Ohio Library Associations.

October. Exact date later. At Winchester, Va. Virginia Library Association.

The next meeting of the North Carolina Library Association will be held in the fall at Chapel Hill. Exact dates will be announced later.

Oct. 30. At Wheeling. West Virginia Library Association. Ora Peters, State Normal School Library, Athens, secretary.

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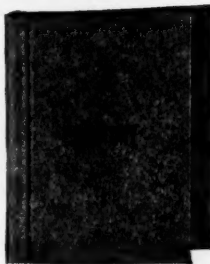
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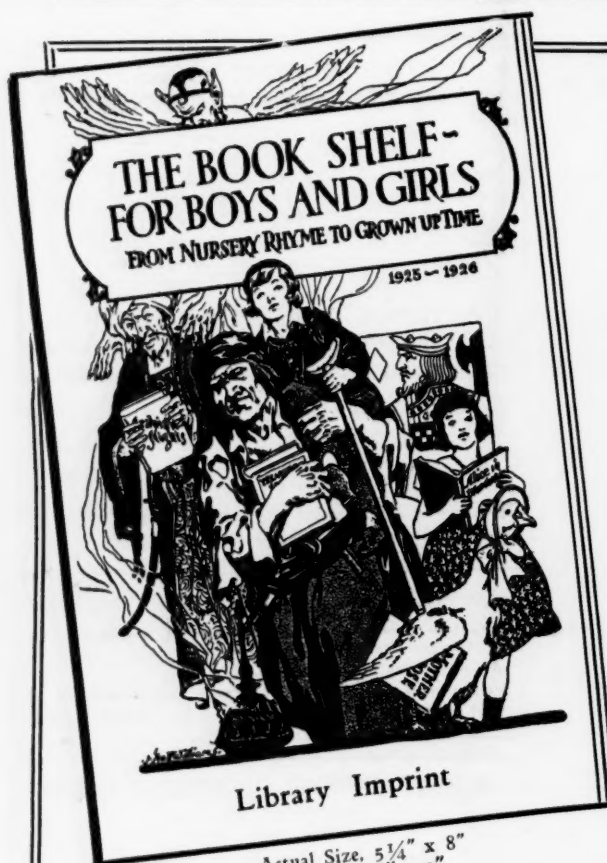
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